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Vol. CC, No. 2605
JANUARY 7, 1950

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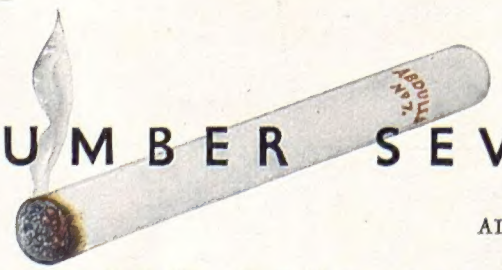

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Volume CC No. 2605 The SPHERE, London, January 7, 1950

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

JANUARY 1, 1950—LONDON CHEERS AS THE TWENTIETH CENTURY REACHES ITS HALF-WAY MARK; THE VAST CROWD ROUND THE BOARDED-UP STATUE OF EROS IN PICCADILLY CIRCUS A FEW MOMENTS AFTER THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT: Tens of thousands of people invaded the West End to witness the passing of 1949 and to greet 1950. Trafalgar Square was similarly thronged, and in the City there was the usual great gathering round St. Paul's

The year 1950 was ushered in by the gayest night London has seen since the war. Under a dazzling blaze of electric signs—it was the first New Year's Eve freed from lighting restrictions—100,000 people jammed the West End, a large proportion of them congregating in Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square. From 11 p.m. onwards buses were marooned in the throng. Eros, defended by a double line of police, survived the onslaughts of the crowd at midnight, although a young soldier did get his hand within a foot of the top of the palisade. At Trafalgar Square nearly every inch of space was taken up, and there was a great congregation in St. Martin's for the Watch Night service. At St. Paul's, favourite New Year haunt of Scottish residents, there was silence as the clock chimed the hour. Afterwards pandemonium broke loose.

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Fifty-fifty. — I keep on saying to myself "fifty . . . fifty," and already the exercise is bearing fruit on my cheques and letter headings. I have scratched out 1949 only three or four times. There is virtue in even numbers, although I admit most proverbs are contradicted by others. But undoubtedly there is something very satisfactory and neat about the figure 50. I thought so once or twice in my cricketing days when I had scratched up runs to that figure. I think I never reached a century. But whereas 100 is rather bloated, 50 is a neat and tidy round figure to which our modified austerity can expect to attain, if it can banish worry and anxiety. And "fifty-fifty" is a modern slang term which, exceptionally, I approve for our dictionary. It is crisp, melodious and exact, in more senses than one the *mot juste*. Social justice has taken it as its catchword and watchword; the only danger is that (as is the case with most healthy reactions) it will swing too far in the other direction. We shall soon be in the throes of a General Election. The best I can hope for in the result is fifty-fifty between Labour and Conservative, with a handful of wise and patriotic Liberals and independents to weight the scales in favour of restraint and common sense. You will find, if you look back into English history, that history has never yet been made in the year fifty of any century. Our old friend Haydn in his *Dictionary of Dates* was hard put to it to find anything to chalk up for any year fifty since the ninth century A.D. Usually, he left that year blank. Happy the nation that has no history! Happy the year that makes none! Let us hope that Haydn's successors will find items no less innocent to record in 1950 than in 1850 and backwards *passim*. May we all enjoy a round figure in 1950, groundnuts or none.

Defence, Not Eyewash.— But if history is to be made in 1950, I know what item I would choose in priority even to a national Budget balance in deed and not on paper. And that item would be the attainment (or steps towards it) of a sound system of defence at home and in Europe and in the West. We cannot read the heart of Monty; if we could, I fancy we should find in it a sense of disillusionment and frustration. National sovereignty and all that that implies in efforts towards international co-operation, is not dead or dying. But an iron curtain hides all that subject from our eyes. At home, we can at least see the 'ooves of the 'osses. We can hear what our conscript sons and nephews have to say. We can watch their reactions and sense their verdicts when they return on twenty-four-hours leave. And those glimpses are not encouraging. Their educational careers are interrupted at a vital time, their starts in useful civilian careers are postponed or cut into. Instructors, equipment, accommodation, all are inadequate. The professional soldiers are the first to acknowledge the expensive futility of conscription to-day. Those who know something of the art of war, especially of war since the bow-and-arrow era, are solid in the belief that one perfectly trained volunteer is better than ten pressed men merely passed off the barrack square. But volunteers must live until they are called on to die, and there is no reason why they should be paid one-third of the pay-packet available to workers in many less dangerous industries. Meanwhile, the few trained instructors we have are turning out reluctant paper soldiers at enormous expense . . . . and the nation wonders whether mere "round-numbers" make an army or an eyewash.

Saving and Spending.—Our Ministers told us we had deserved a really good Christmas and a long holiday. We had our deserts. The presents were wonderful. So was the food. A "real old-fashioned Christmas" with the thermometer beating 50 deg., Moscow radio blaring out Peace and Goodwill carols, food parcels rolling in from the sister nations of the Commonwealth, and ourselves dipping into our untaxed resources to the tune of £100,000,000 (so they said). The Savings Committee smiled a Christmas smile of tolerance when they recorded their all-time nadir—savings for the week totalled minus £10,000,000. For the month round Christmas the estimated deficit will be minus £30,000,000 plus. Well, we 've had it. We enjoyed it. But it won't do to prolong it over Twelfth Night. One of the priority problems of the New Year and of the next Government must be to find some way of compelling us all to respond to appeals to save, and that can only be achieved by "getting over" some sense of confidence that what we save will be ours to enjoy one day. After all, money is money, and is thought of in terms of £.s.d. "Saving" is a hard-headed, brass-tack habit. In the last five years we have been caught out too often. We have been easy pigeons for the plucking of Government three-card tricksters. Promises have been most indigestible piecrust. Post-war credits, for instance, are at a discount still, after five years of peace. We put our savings into Government loans at 115 or so, now standing at 90 or thereabouts. We put them into Rail Stocks and were sold a pup, into Gas Stocks and Electricity Stocks, and we had our incomes properly decimated. Most of us, in the face of these sorry inducements to thrift, cannot respond even from patriotic motives. We are spending our capital to pay the tax on our incomes. We have no inducements to work harder, offered in the form which most easily encourages harder work. Something must really be found to re-establish confidence. The confidence trick is not enough.

Too True.—A remark by a politician stuck in my mind over the Christmas and New Year revels. Mr. Granville, Liberal M.P., said: "The present Government is stale, tired and neglecting the real interests of the workers and is letting the country down. The Socialists know that more Socialism is the wish of only a small minority of the people. But the people are afraid that Toryism means depression and worse." He added that "the Tories would not denationalise if returned to power. Their policy would differ little from the Socialist. What hypocrisy!" Why hypocrisy? Unscrambling the eggs is rare and difficult in our politics. But it is profoundly true that as long as there are men in politics and industry who can remember infancy and youth under the old system, or the years of mass unemployment between wars, so long will the name of Tory or Conservative stink in their nostrils. It is monstrously unfair, but so it is and so will remain until another generation passes or these absurd old labels, which mean nothing at all, are scrapped. You might as well call lipstick woad or Bren guns arrows. The party's enemies will go on calling it Tory or worse; but it *could* offer an alternative, more modern, label for the use of supporters—and waverers. It is the party itself that needs unscrambling and remodelling from the egg. Who will undertake it—ruthlessly? And what goes for the Tories is as true of the Liberals. Mr. Granville sees this election as the Liberals' unique opportunity. Not, I believe, in its present state of scramble.

Real-life Raffles.—At least ten of the hundred newspapers who found in the career of Gentleman Johnny Fieldsend a holiday godsend did *not* use the caption which I have used. This shows that imagination, restraint and initiative are all very much alive in the British Press to-day—"Expert Gem-Thief's Double Life" was an alternative caption to be noted, and that, again, was a distinct understatement. For Gentleman Johnny led as many lives as he owned houses. A man of infinite charm, gay humour and sunny disposition, he had a host of friends who delighted in his company and enjoyed his hospitality, as sometimes he enjoyed theirs. For his visits to the houses of his friends usually coincided with a "burglary" or theft of gems. At his "luxury" flat in London, his island home at Windsor, on the river or race-course, at his shootings in Dorset, he was the life and soul of the parties he entertained or consorted with; and as many gems fell from his lips as found their way into his strong-box. Well, that is obviously a "real-life Raffles." Can you beat it as a caption? Throw in that Barry Fieldsend "wore Savile Row suits and handmade shirts and shoes," wore the old school tie and a pink coat at hunt balls, and who can be surprised that he was always surrounded by admiring "Bunnies"?

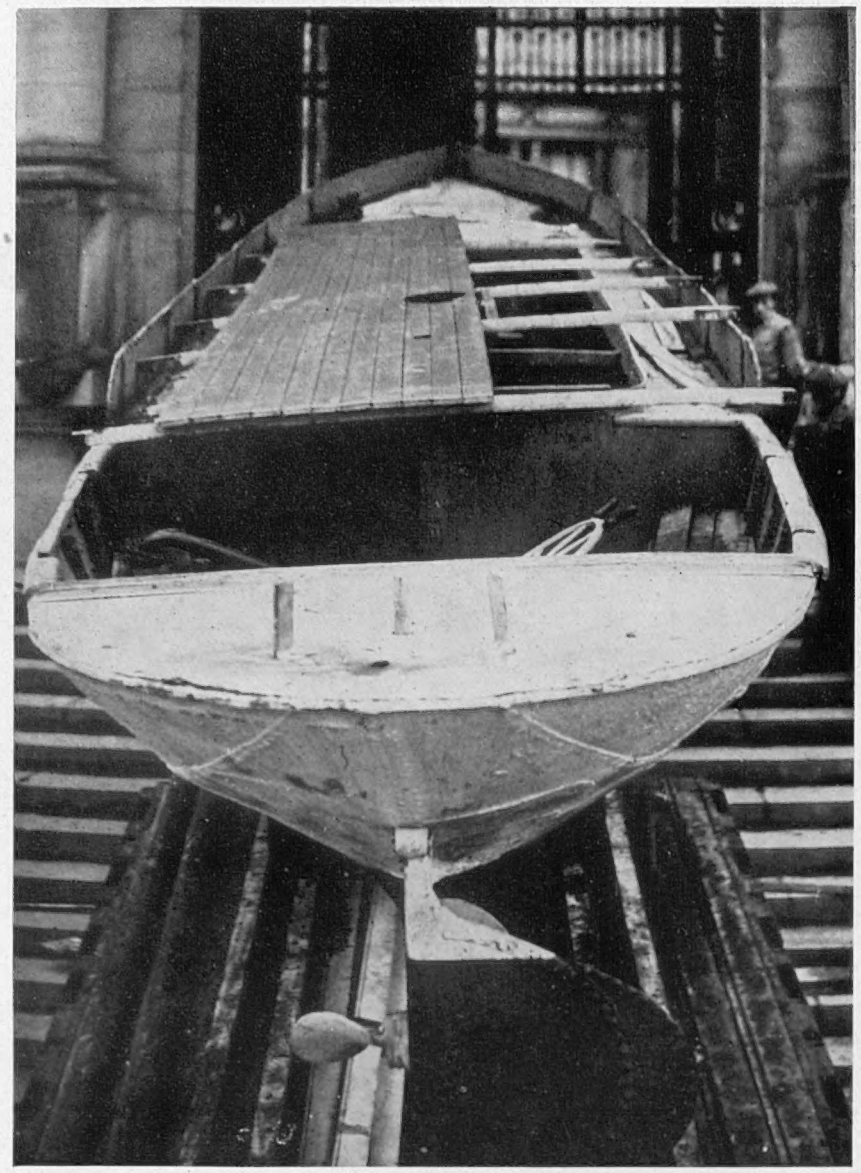
"His life was gentle and the elements
(or perhaps emeralds)
So mixed in him that Fleet Street might stand up
And say to all the world: This was a . . . Real-life Raffles."

Or so it seemed to me.

The Judges Know.—Before the old year was quite dead, the bubbles of January hate were bursting on the surface of the world's face: new purges, new grabbing of private property, more strikes, Governments falling, new threats and suspicions and anxieties for all. We may be sure that we shall have a bellyful before the swallows come, and in this brief calm before the New Year's storms I take a chance which may not come later to record a domestic note. The High Court judges on circuit in some counties have already agreed to address the local magistrates, furthering the Lord Chancellor's aim of educating the Benches to their ever more onerous duties. I am glad of this. The High Court judges know (far better than theorists) how very, very dangerous in the hands of lay magistrates may be "a little knowledge" of the law. They know (none better) that even a trained lawyer, constantly at work in the courts and out of them, cannot hope to keep at his fingers'-ends all the complicated details of a thousand intricate Acts. They, I am sure, will not waste time in trying to turn Mr. Justice Muddlecombe into an expert in an hour or two. If I know them, they will get down to brass tacks. The lay Justice can never hope to "know the law." If our Petty Sessional Courts are to be improved, the Justices need instruction above all (and probably exclusively) in the rules of evidence and procedure in Criminal Courts. One word of "hearsay" evidence, allowed to pass by a chairman, may prejudice a trial completely. Knowledge of Criminal Court procedure not only encourages counsel to do their best but adds enormously to the dignity of the Bench and the cause of justice. The High Court judges know this and will surely concentrate on these themes. As chairman of a Bench, I never cease to be thankful that I snatched first-class honours in these subjects in my Bar exams.

Criminal Appeals.—The work of the K.B.D. in non-jury cases is getting seriously in arrears. A case all ready for trial may have to wait a year for a chance of hearing. The cause of these arrears is the increasing work of the Court of Criminal Appeal, which takes three judges away from their ordinary work in the Division. Recently the Appeal Court has had to sit every week at least on one day. Probably it was never anticipated that appeals to the C.C.A. would be so lightly undertaken, or something more precise in the nature of sanctions against "frivolous" appeals might have been devised. The Lord Chief Justice noted that very rarely indeed did the Appeal Court find justification for upsetting the conviction, though fairly often it varies the degree of sentence, not always in favour of the convicted person. In short, in the larger number of these appeals the Court has found *nothing at all to be discussed*. So that the time of judges, badly needed elsewhere, is wasted. Presumably the right to appeal to the C.C.A. is not subject to the sanction of any independent authority required to find a *prima facie* ground for appeal whether against conviction or against the severity of the sentence. I am not well up in the subject. In certain forms of civil causes, leave to appeal may be refused (as I understand it) by the judge who tries the case. But not presumably in a criminal trial of a grave indictable offence.

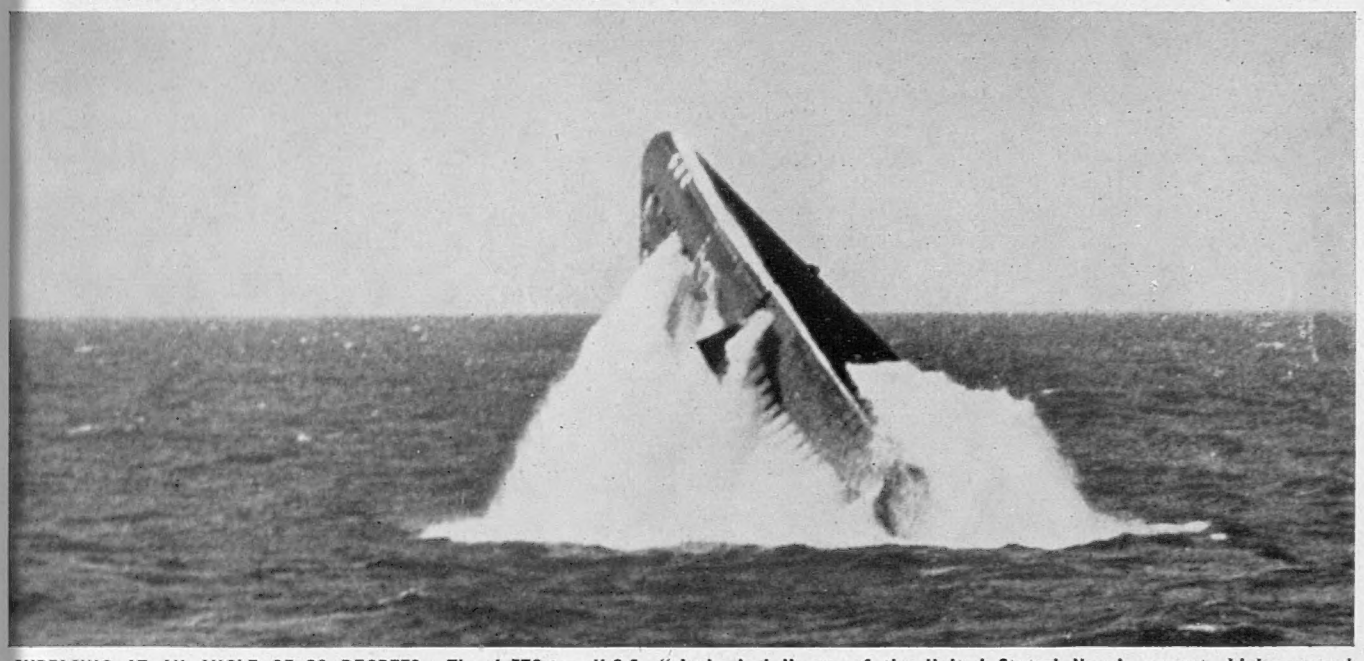
THE OLD STAGER



STANLEY'S BOAT FINDS A NEW HOME—THE CRAFT USED BY THE GREAT EXPLORER ON HIS JOURNEYINGS IN THE CONGO BASIN HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE BURGOMASTER OF OSTEND TO THE FAMOUS CONGO COLONIAL MUSEUM AT TERVUEREAN: The boat was for many years in the Leopold Park, Ostend, and it has long been felt that its rightful place is at Tervuerean, in view of Stanley's work in making known to the world the vital commercial importance of the Congo with its vast raw material wealth. One of Stanley's most important journeys was made at the instigation of Leopold II of Belgium

BRITAIN AND YUGOSLAVIA COME TO TERMS : Sir Charles Peake (right), British Ambassador in Belgrade, adds his signature to the agreement which brings trade to the value of £110,000,000 to both countries. Seated on the left is Mr. Popovic, the Yugoslavian Minister of Trade and Industry. Timber, non-ferrous metal and maize will be among the principal British imports from Yugoslavia

FIGHTING THE GREAT RUSSIAN ECONOMIC BLOCKADE : Marshal Tito and his Foreign Minister, Mr. Kardelj, seen in the Yugoslav Parliament on the day after the signing of the treaty with Great Britain. It is estimated that the treaty, which took ten months to negotiate and which was several times in danger of breaking down, will save Britain at least 20,000,000 dollars, and it will raise trade between the two countries to about double its present level. In a New Year message to the world, Mr. Kardelj spoke of Yugoslavia's new and considerable outside sources of strength. "Dogs are barking, but the caravan goes by, and this caravan is the Yugoslav people," said Mr. Kardelj



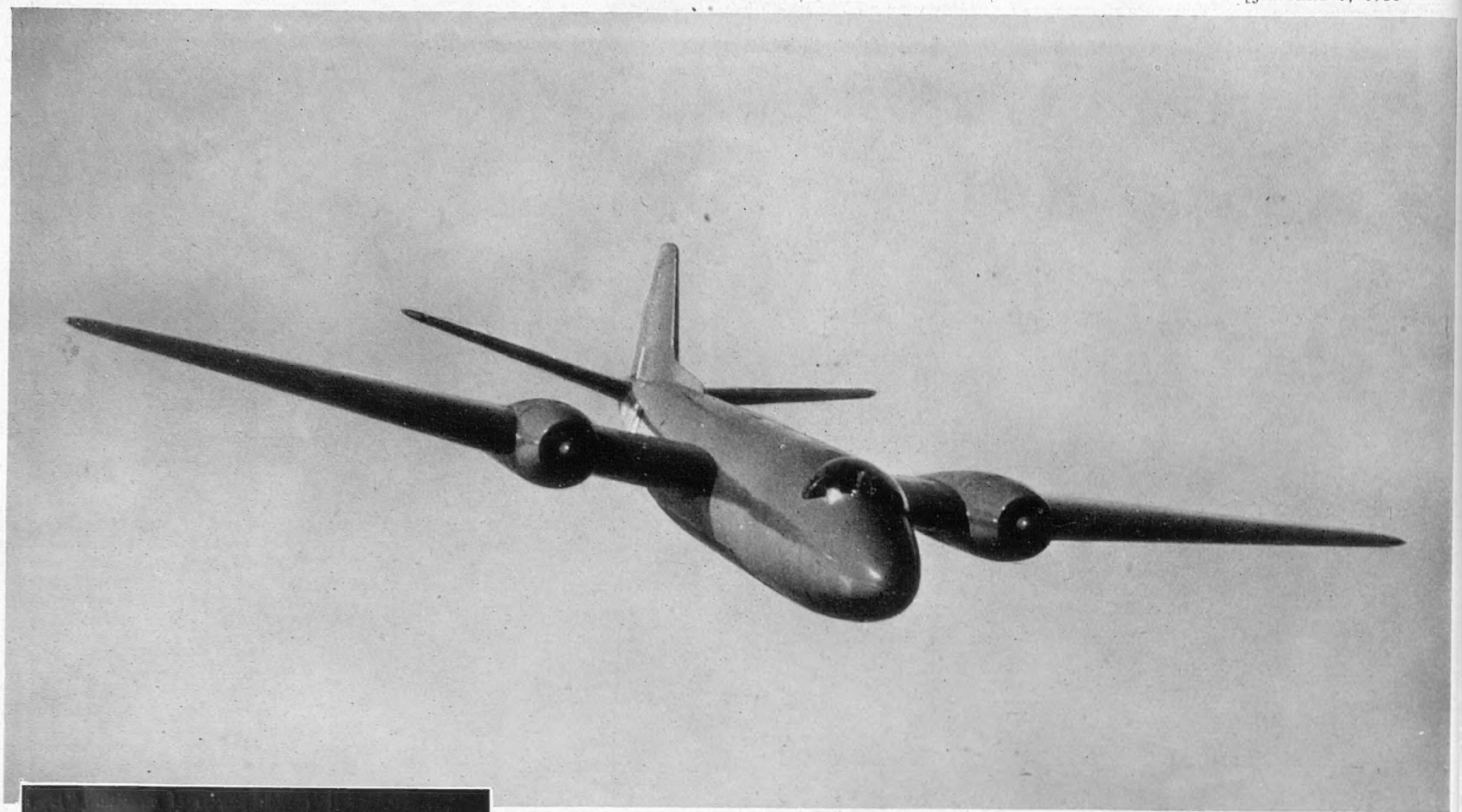
SURFACING AT AN ANGLE OF 38 DEGREES : The 1,570-ton U.S.S. "Amberjack," one of the United States' Navy's newest, high-powered submarines, goes through a spectacular demonstration off Key West, Florida. The commanding officer, Commander E. L. Beach, U.S.N., pointed out that this was a deliberate demonstration of the capabilities of the "Guppy" (Greater Underwater Propulsive Power) type of submarine and was not a normal manœuvre. The "Amberjack" was submerged to a depth of 150 ft. and then brought up at full speed, so that she broke the surface at an angle of 38 degrees instead of the normal angle of 5 degrees

SINEWS OF PEACE SINEWS OF WAR

The Yugoslav Trade Agreement : America's High-powered Submarine : China's Defeated Nationalists

A BEATEN ARMY—PREFERRING INTERNMENT BY FRENCH COLONIAL FORCES TO CAPTURE BY CHINESE COMMUNIST TROOPS MOPPING-UP IN SOUTHERN CHINA, SOME 23,000 TROOPS, REMNANTS OF CHIANG KAI-SHEK'S ARMIES, HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER INTO INDO-CHINA : *Left*—A long column on the march at Chi Ma, Tonkin. The men had marched right across the wild Kouang Si mountains. *Right*—These French colonial troops, wearing Australian-type hats, disarmed the Chinese

At the turn of the year President Truman decided upon sending military and civil advisers to Formosa, where the Nationalists are planning their last stand. The Nationalists still hold command of the China Seas, but on the mainland their war effort is clearly drawing to a close, as witness these pictures taken in Indo-China as troops in the south-west crossed the border to seek sanctuary among the French. Maotze and his Communists are now virtually masters of China. Shanghai, hard put to it to maintain food supplies by canal, is still blockaded by the Chinese Nationalists, and this perhaps is the strongest card that Chiang Kai-Shek has been able to play in the recent weeks of Nationalist disruption.



FASHIONS in FLIGHT

BRITAIN'S NEW BOMBER AND NIGHT FIGHTER: AMERICA'S NEW INTERCEPTOR

THE CANBERRA IS NOW ROLLING OFF THE PRODUCTION LINE: Britain's first jet bomber, the Canberra, is now in quantity production for the Royal Air Force by the English Electric Company. Since the first prototype flew for the first time on May 13 last, it has carried out nearly 100-hours experimental flight-testing, and has just returned from its initial handling trials at the Ministry of Supply's Experimental Establishment at Boscombe Down, where, in eighteen consecutive days, it was flown by seven test pilots for over thirty hours. The Canberra has two Rolls-Royce Avon turbo-jet engines, and relies for defence on the highest possible performance, not on guns

BRITAIN'S LATEST NIGHT FIGHTER: This is the de Havilland 113, the Vampire night fighter, which has only lately been taken off the secret list. Details of the performance of the aircraft are still secret, but it is known that the nose and cockpit layout are based on the design of the famous war-time Mosquito night fighter. The de Havilland 113 is a two-seater

A NEW HIGH-ALTITUDE INTERCEPTOR: This is the YF 86D, North American Aviation's successor to the F 86A Sabre, holder of the official world's speed record. The faster and higher flying YF 86D is powered by a modified version of the General Electric J 47 jet engine with an after-burner

The U.S. Air Force's latest model of the North American Sabre jet fighter, the YF 86D, has just successfully completed its first flight at Muroc Air Force Base, Muroc, California. The F 86A holds the world's speed record of 670·981 miles per hour. The YF 86D not only differs from its predecessor by having an air intake duct under the nose instead of in the centre of the nose, but it has a larger aft fuselage section to house its more powerful jet. Previous models were powered by a J 47 engine without the after-burner. The after-burner is an auxiliary source of power. Comparatively simple in design and operation, after-burning is a process of introducing fuel into the exhaust pipe and igniting it with spark-plugs. The resulting exhaust gas is increased in mass and velocity, thereby greatly increasing the total thrust of the engine. This model has the same swept-back wings as previous models, and this configuration combined with the added thrust is expected to produce greater high-altitude performance. Since its external configuration is similar to the F 86A, production changes for assembly-line manufacture are slight.

A SCHOOLBOY TURNS THE HANDLE OF A GLASS FRICTION MACHINE : The machine is generating electricity, charging the bottle held by Dr. Dunsheath, the Royal Institute lecturer. On the table, littered with electrical apparatus, are the candles which Dr. Dunsheath lit at the start of his lecture as a reminder to his young audience that that was the standard form of illumination when the Christmas lectures were begun 120 years ago

A DRAMATIC MOMENT IN THE HALF-DARKENED LECTURE THEATRE OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTION : Dr. P. Dunsheath points out to his young audience the operation of a machine which registers and measures heart-beats on a cardiagraph, the pulsations being manifested by electrical sparking in full view of the audience. This was one of many "highlights" as Dr. Dunsheath began the 120th course of six lectures "adapted to a juvenile auditory" at the Royal Institute, Albemarle Street, London, W. The course this year deals with the electric current in its many and varied aspects. Topsy-turvy toast, which browned inside and remained white without, mince-pies heated by high-frequency rays, and apples protected from pilfering by an invisible guard, were among the objects produced for the entertainment and instruction of the young. The first lecture was opened in the light of candles in two gleaming candlesticks. Such soft and flickering illumination was in common use when, said Dr. Dunsheath, the first of such courses of lectures was given 120 years ago to audiences which travelled in horse-drawn carriages to the Royal Institution. As he sketched the sequence of discoveries he emphasised his main points with demonstrations.

SHOCKS FOR ALL AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTION

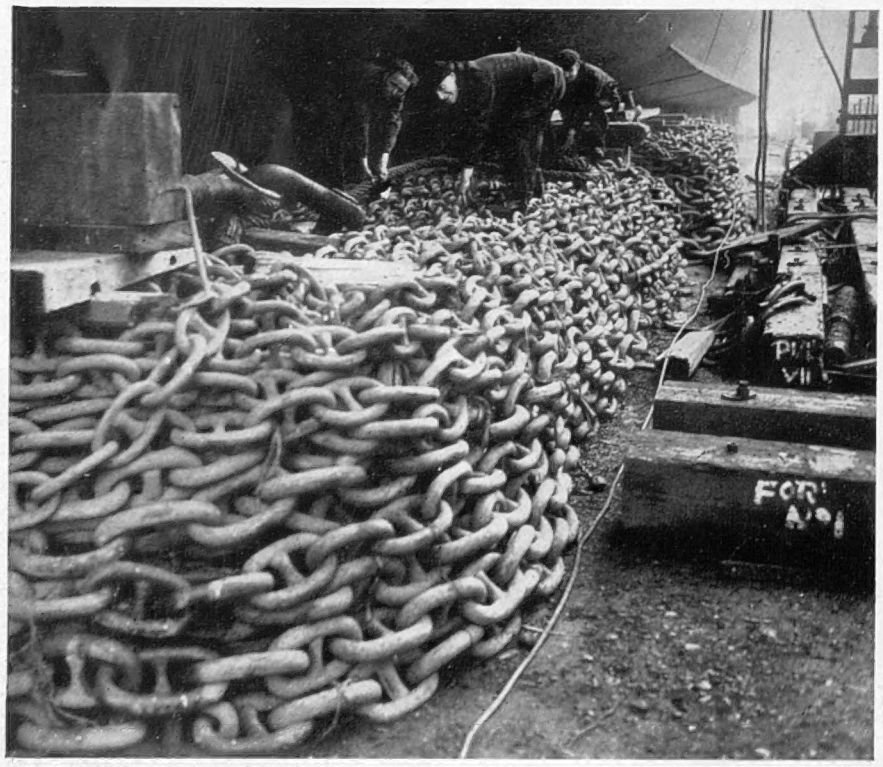
Dr. Dunsheath Delivers the Christmas Lectures for Schoolboys and Schoolgirls

AT WORK ON THE PLATE LINE MODEL AT JOHN BROWN'S YARD, CLYDEBANK : On this half-model the sizes of the various plates of a new ship are gauged. For the young draughtsman it is exacting work and, needless to say, accuracy is vital

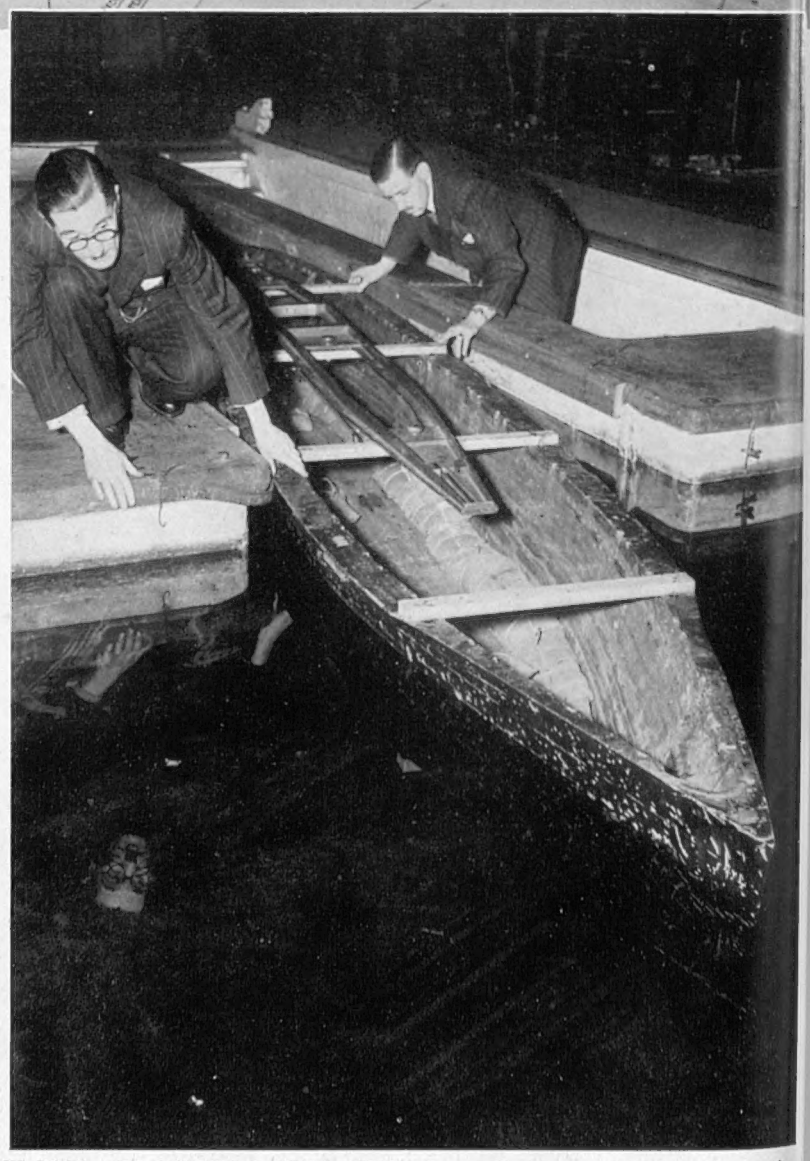
MEN BEHIND THE SCENES AT JOHN BROWN'S

Three Aspects of Work at the Great Clydebank Yards

These pictures of life and work at John Brown's draw attention to the varied tasks in a great British yard. John Brown's has now known fifteen years of uninterrupted prosperity, and had its full share in last year's post-war record of 1,400,000 gross tons of new merchant ships turned out by British yards. Inevitably a large proportion of the yard's craftsmen are now no longer young, and it is said that at least 10 per cent. of the labour force is over 65.



THE MEN IN CHARGE OF THE DRAG CHAINS : They are setting the chains in position beneath the hull of a vessel preparatory to its launching. As the liner glides down the slipway the chains make a most effective brake. When the "Queen" liners were launched the total weight of the drag chains was as much as 2,000 tons



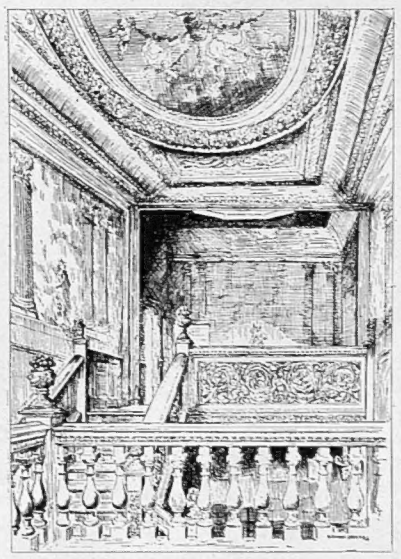
IN DOCK, BUT ONLY ON A SMALL SCALE : A paraffin-wax model of a ship in the experimental tank at John Brown's. This model is based on the preliminary plans of naval architects and scientists. Their theories are tried out in the 400-ft.-long tank, the ship being loaded down to different depths

A 17TH-CENTURY MANSION IN DANGER

Eltham Lodge is Sinking on its Foundations: Repairing Lewes Castle

Following a detailed survey of the building by the Ministry of Works, it has been found that extensive restoration work will have to be carried out to preserve Eltham Lodge, the beautiful seventeenth-century club-house of the Royal Blackheath Golf Club, which is claimed to be the oldest golf club in the world. The house has been shored up on three sides for some years, and now death-watch beetle is reported. The walls, also, are sinking on their foundations. Eltham Lodge, South-east of London, belongs to the Crown Lands, and it is hoped that restoration work will begin early in this year. The Royal Blackheath Golf Club, which was founded in 1608, moved to Eltham in 1919. The land on which Eltham Lodge is built formed part of the vast domain of Eltham Palace. In 1663, the Crown leased the manor and Great Park to Sir John Shaw, Vintner of London, who employed the architect Hugh May to build Eltham Lodge. It was Hugh May who Charles II employed to do certain repairs at Windsor Castle.

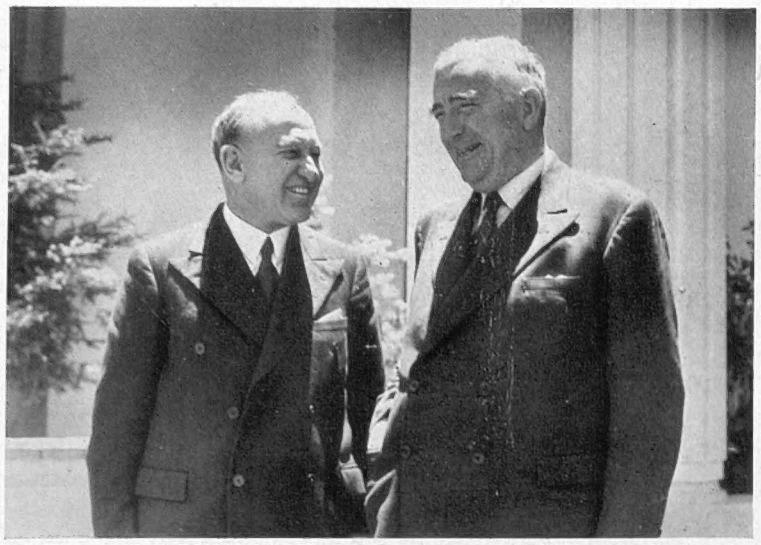
A FINE SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY MANSION IN DANGER: Eltham Lodge, in Kent, club-house of the oldest golf club in the world, thé Royal Blackheath Golf Club, has been found in need of extensive restoration work by a Ministry of Works survey. The walls are beginning to sink on their foundations and have been temporarily shored up



THE INTERIOR OF ELTHAM LODGE: *Left*—The dining-room of the club-house contains a fine specimen of an Adam fireplace. *Centre*—A drawing by Mr. Bransby Keates of the fine old oak grand staircase with its openwork balustrade of richly carved scrollwork and elaborate plasterwork ceiling. The pillars on either side of the staircase are painted on the wall. *On right*—The staircase from the hall, with its club notice-board, and the hats and coats of members on the right

REPAIRING LEWES CASTLE: Workmen on the wall east of the South Tower and, *right*, the thirteenth-century South Tower of the Keep, which is now restored, and the wall, in "splints" for strengthening. The thirteenth-century South Tower of Lewes Castle, Sussex, which had fallen into a state of disrepair, has now been renovated by the Sussex Archæological Society. A restoration fund to meet the cost of the work (estimated at about £5,000) has been opened. The Castle was presented to the Sussex Archæological Society by Sir Charles Thomas Stanford, and the repairs were held up by the war. Lewes Castle was the headquarters of Prince Edward in 1264 during the Battle of Lewes, which proved to be the decisive engagement in the struggle between Henry III and Simon de Montfort

1. HOXHA, VANISHED ALBANIAN PREMIER



2. NEW REGIME DOWN UNDER: Governor-General McKell with Mr. Menzies

3. SHISHEKLEY IN THE SYRIAN SADDLE

4. THE GABLES GO HONEYMOONING

5. LORD BALNIEL MARRIES IN ZURICH

PEOPLE: SOME PERSONALITIES IN THE WORLD NEWS

1. WHERE IS ENVER HOXHA? This is the question which has been asked in Tirana ever since the Albanian Premier left by plane for Moscow in November. Hoxha was accompanied by two Russian generals, and, up to the time of writing, the world has been entirely without news of him. One rumour has been that Moscow has removed him from office because he was said to be wavering in his attitude regarding continued Albanian participation in the campaign against Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia.

2. THE VICTORY OF R. G. MENZIES: The new Australian Prime Minister, whose party dealt the Socialists a resounding blow in the December elections, has now been sworn-in by Governor-General McKell. Closer economic co-operation within the British Empire is one of Mr. Menzies' aims, and free enterprise within the Australian Commonwealth is to be allowed greater rein. The resignation of Mr. McKell before the completion of his full term has been rumoured, and the name of Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery has been canvassed as a possible successor.

3. WHAT GOES ON IN SYRIA? The coup staged by a dissident group in the Syrian Army against General Sami Hennawi, who had in the late summer staged a coup against Husni Zaim, his predecessor, was led by Colonel Adib el-Shishekley. The Colonel, at the moment of going to Press, is Commander-in-Chief of the Syrian Army, but almost anything can happen from hour to hour in this strife-ridden land where contending militarists are operating in what has been described as a "political vacuum." Shishekley is identified with what is known as the Resurrection Party, and he is reported to be privately critical of U.S., French and British policies in foreign affairs.

4. CLARK GABLE WEDS AGAIN: Hollywood's much-married star surprised the film colony by the sudden announcement of his marriage to the much-married Lady Stanley, the former Lady Ashley, the former Mrs. Fairbanks Senior. The couple sailed straight after their wedding for a honeymoon in Hawaii, boarding the S.S. *Lurline* in the face of a battery of Press photographers. One of Gable's former wives was Carole Lombard, who died in an air crash in 1942.

5. THE WEDDING OF LORD BALNIEL: The son and heir of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres married Miss Ruth Meyer just after Christmas, the wedding taking place at the English Church in Zurich.

6 THE WINDSORS RETURN TO AMERICA: The Duke and Duchess were a smiling couple as they left Paris just before Christmas, waving good-bye to a host of friends at St. Lazare as the boat train steamed out for Cherbourg. They were at sea during Christmas. The Duke and Duchess may spend a considerable time in the United States on this occasion, and the Duke has talked of taking up some lucrative work in addition to that of writing his memoirs for the *Time-Life* newspaper group. The Duke, who writes every word of his memoirs, has commented on what hard work writing can be, demanding a sustained effort of concentration.

7. SIR ALEXANDER McCALL GOES TO THE FAR EASTERN CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH FOREIGN MINISTERS: Mr. Ernest Bevin's doctor left London last week aboard the *Golden Arrow* on the first stage of the journey to Colombo. The Foreign Secretary suffered a heart attack during the Christmas holidays, and it was considered highly inadvisable that he should travel without medical attendance.

8. THE ENGAGEMENT OF CARMEN FRANCO: After waiting eighteen months General Franco's daughter, Señorita Carmen Franco Polo, has obtained her father's consent to her marriage to Cristobal Martinez Bordin, Marquis de Villaverde. The head of the Spanish State planned a more ambitious marriage for his daughter, and it is understood that he relented in the matter with some reluctance. The wedding will take place in March. This picture of the bridegroom and bride-to-be was taken at a football match which they attended in Madrid.

9. SUBMARINE TELEPATHY: The Piddingtons, most successful telepathists of recent years, have been developing a new series of performances for the B.B.C. In one experiment Mrs. Sidney Piddington goes beneath the surface in a diving-bell. The test depicted here was made at Messrs. Siebe Gorman's, Kingston By-pass. There has been some criticism of the B.B.C. on the grounds that they have allowed the Piddingtons to appear as a piece of fine showmanship, whereas in reality their act may have a deeper significance. The Piddingtons have made no special claims, and their efforts have won the highest praise.

7. MR. BEVIN'S DOCTOR COLOMBO-BOUND

8. CARMEN FRANCO (CENTRE) AND VILLAVERDE

6. THE WINDSORS WESTWARD HO! The Duke and Duchess at St. Lazare, en route to the U.S.

9. MRS. PIDDINGTON, DIVING BELLE!

A PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION FOR THE UNITED STATES OF INDONESIA: Mohammed Rum, Chairman of the Central Committee which has been selecting the Government, addressing the delegates of the sixteen Indonesian states and territories who met in Batavia (now called Djakarta) before Christmas to prepare a provisional constitution for the new nation of 77,000,000 people which has emerged in the Indonesian Islands following The Hague Agreement last November. This new constitution became effective on December 27

BIRTH OF A NEW ASIAN NATION

Ceremonies at Djakarta, Jogjakarta, and Amsterdam Mark the Inauguration of the United States of Indonesia

Since the ten-week round-table conference at The Hague in the autumn, a conference which ended in the Netherlands agreeing to let Indonesia go her own way in her own time, the Netherlands Parliament and the Constitutional authorities of the sixteen States of the United States of Indonesia have all ratified the agreements. As a result, at Amsterdam on December 27, Queen Juliana was able to transfer sovereignty from the Netherlands to the new Federal Republic, and so in South-East Asia a new nation came into being. The new Federation is to remain a partner with the Netherlands under the Dutch crown.

In mid-December in Batavia (now renamed Djakarta) constitution-making was going ahead with all speed, while on December 17 at Jogjakarta, the old capital of the Sultans, President Soekarno, amid wild acclaim, was sworn in to his office as head of the State. Bells were pealing out in Amsterdam on December 27, when Queen Juliana signed the transfer, and on the same day the rejoicings in Djakarta reached a climax.

THE CEREMONIAL AT JOGJAKARTA AS PRESIDENT SOEKARNO IS SWORN IN AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF INDONESIA: *Left*—Achmed Soekarno, a youthful-looking figure in white, flanked by his entourage and his guards as he entered the main pavilion of the former Sultan's palace to take the oath. *Right*—The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the new Republic administers the Presidential oath in accordance with Muslim practice. A Muslim priest is seen holding the Koran behind President Soekarno's head. The swearing-in took place in the red and gold pavilion. Three thousand guests saw the solemn ceremonial

QUEEN JULIANA SIGNS THE ACT TRANSFERRING POWER TO THE UNITED STATES OF INDONESIA, THUS ENDING DUTCH COLONIAL RULE OVER THE RICH EAST INDIES EMPIRE: Sultan Hamid (third from left), Premier Mohammad Hatta, Queen Juliana, and the Dutch Premier, Dr. Drees, in the Royal Palace at Amsterdam during the historic ceremony on December 27. Bells pealed from the churches in Amsterdam to signal the birth of the new nation, and the atmosphere was one of cordial goodwill. After the signing Queen Juliana said: "No longer do we stand partially opposed to one another. We have now taken our stations side by side"

ON THE EVE OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE HOLY YEAR THE POPE RECITES A SPECIAL MASS IN THE SISTINE CHAPEL : His Holiness, attended by the Cardinals of the Consistory, is seen in the centre of the kneeling group directly before the altar steps. After this special Mass the Pope was borne in the sedia gestatoria to the portico of the Basilica of St. Peter's, where he conducted the ceremony of opening the Holy Door to mark the start of the twenty-fifth Holy Year

THE QUEEN-MOTHER OF BELGIUM WAS A GUEST AT THE VATICAN CEREMONY : Her Majesty with Monsignor Nordone, Prefect of the Pontifical Ceremonial Staff for Civil Ceremonies, at the opening of the Holy Door. Signora Einaudi, wife of the Italian President, Signor de Gasperi, the Premier, and Mr. Sean MacBride, Eire's Foreign Minister, were also among the guests

THE POPE, IN SEDIA GESTATORIA, IS BORNE FROM THE SISTINE CHAPEL TO THE POR OF THE BASILICA FOR THE OPENING OF THE HOLY DOOR AND THE INAUGURAT OF ANNO SANCTO : The appearance of Pope Pius was acclaimed by s hundreds of privileged guests who were present for the opening cere

THE 25TH HOLY YEAR BEGINS

The Impressive Ritual at St. Peter's, Rome

The Pope in his Christmas message, coinciding with the inauguration of the Holy Year, the Anno Sancto, which will bring 3,000,000 pilgrims flocking to Rome before the year is out, declared that the year was not to be a conceited display of Roman Catholic strength in the sense understood by the world which made success consist of the momentary plaudits of vast masses. It must instead be characterised as "the year of the great return, the great pardon, in the measure at least that our present age, even very recently, has been the epoch of apostasy and guilt." The Pope addressed to the whole world the plea that all men, and each one in particular, from every land and every shore might accomplish the desired great return "with all the urgency demanded by these extraordinary times." Marking the start of the Holy Year was the impressive ritual of the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's, a ritual preceded by Mass in the Sistine Chapel and followed by an elaborate ceremony within the Basilica. As the Pope left the Basilica in the gestatorial chair there were fervent cries on all hands of "Long live the Pope."

WITH AN IVORY-HANDLED SILVER AND GOLD HAMMER THE POPE ADVANCES TO THE HOLY DOOR, KNOCKS THRICE, AND THE HEAVY BRICK CLOSURE IS ROLLED BACK FTH THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1934 : *Left*—The ceremony of knocking at the portal. With each knock the Pope said in Latin, "Open unto me the door of justic *Right*—The door, held by strong ropes and backed by a wheeled truck, descends gradually and is then ready to be rolled away by a party of Vatican workm

A DISCORDANT ELEMENT IN THE CHRISTMAS PEACE OF THE ETERNAL CITY : Some Communist rowdies overturned this car outside the Spanish Embassy in protest against the visit to Rome of Dr. Artajo, the Spanish Foreign Minister, who represented Spain at the ceremony of the Holy Door

A SOLEMN PROCESSION OF CLERGY ENTERING ST. PETER'S : Ten thousand Seminarists and pilgrims from other lands and from other parts of Italy crowded into the Basilica to see the Pope enter by the Holy Door, thus inaugurating the Holy Year. Entry to the Basilica was strictly controlled

EN ROUTE TO THE BASILICA OF ST. PETER'S TO RECEIVE 10,000 SEMINARISTS THE POPE PASSES THROUGH THE HOLY DOOR—THIS WAS THE SECOND OCCASION AFTER THE BRICK CLOSURE HAD BEEN REMOVED AND THE PORTALS HAD BEEN FLUNG OPEN FOR THE FIRST TIME FOR FIFTEEN YEARS : On the Pope's right hand is Monsignor Enrico Dante, Prefect of the Vatican Ceremonial Staff for the Religious Ceremonies

THE POPE WITHIN THE BASILICA OF ST. PETER'S, WHICH HE ENTERED AFTER KNOCKING UPON THE HOLY DOOR : Pope Pius is seen in the foreground kneeling before the High Altar. This was the first of the series of gorgeous ceremonies which will take place in St. Peter's throughout the Anno Sancto, when a total of 3,000,000 pilgrims are expected in Rome. The Pope marked the inauguration by a Christmas message of more than usual depth of feeling, appealing for a return to Roman Catholicism

THE RE-EMERGENCE OF VITTORIO EMMANUELE ORLANDO: The distinguished Italian elder Statesman, who will be ninety years old next March, shaking hands with Signor Luigi Einaudi, the Italian President. Signor Orlando has just been elected by general acclamation to the Presidency of the Italian National Press Federation, a body incorporating the representatives of the major Italian newspapers and news agencies. Orlando is the last survivor of the Big Four of Versailles Treaty days, when he withdrew over the Fiume question from his association with Lloyd George, Clemenceau and Wilson

LISBON TAKES GOOD CARE OF ITS TRAFFIC POLICE: Envelopes filled with bank-notes, bottles of wine and spirits, groceries and other luxuries were grouped round this Christmas-tree in the heart of Lisbon when motorists in the city showered Christmas good cheer on the guardians of the road. The idea of providing Christmas fare for the traffic police was initiated in Lisbon through the good offices of the Automobile Club of Portugal

WORLD AFFAIRS AT THE START OF 195

A Survey of the Foreign News in Picture

ISRAEL DEFIES THE UNITED NATIONS DECISION TO INTERNATIONALISE JERUSALEM BY TRANSFERRING MORE MINISTRIES TO THE HOLY CITY: *Left*—Francis B. Sayre (U States), J. Fletcher Cooke (United Kingdom), Fadhil Al Jamali (Iraq), Raul Noriega (Mexico), Henri Laurentie (France), Victorio D. Carpio (the Philippines), Karim A (the Lebanon) and Melchior P. Aquino (the Philippines), all members of the United Nations Trusteeship Council, discussing the latest developments after they voted to ask Israel to remove the new Ministries. *Right*—A general view of the new wing of the Jewish Agency building in Jerusalem which will accommodate h Civil Servants. Work on drafting the Jerusalem Statute is to begin on January 19, when the Trusteeship Council reconvenes for its regular winter session in Ge Under the General Assembly's plan to internationalise Jerusalem, the city may become a corpus separatum governed by the U.N.s Trusteeship Council. The area w embrace the walled Old City, the bustling New City, and such nearby holy places as Bethlehem. The United States, Britain and Sweden opposed the plan as unrea After hearing the news of the General Assembly vote, Israel's Foreign Minister, Moshe Sharrett, announced that his Government would never give up Jerus

A WOMAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS HER CREDENTIALS—THE NEW UNITED STATES ENVOY TO THE COURT OF DENMARK IS RECEIVED AT THE CHRISTIANSBORG PALACE: Mrs. Eugenie Anderson, accompanied by the Court Chamberlain, Count Sigismund Sohulin, arriving by coach at the Palace entrance. *Right*—Two of the Palace G present arms to Mrs. Anderson as she leaves the court. The new Ambassador arrived in Denmark with her family shortly before the Christmas holiday

POST-WAR PROSPERITY COMES TO GERMERSHEIM—OUTHOUSES AND A DUCK-POND ON THE 600-ACRE ISLAND ON THE RHINE IN BAVARIA, WHERE SIXTEEN HUNGARIAN FAMILIES OF GERMAN DESCENT HAVE ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES SINCE THE CLOSE OF HOSTILITIES IN EUROPE: The Hungarians, all refugees from Balkan Europe at the time of the Russian offensive in 1944, rented the island on a group basis. From the outset their crops prospered on the rich soil and they began to achieve an adequate livelihood. To-day they own 300 hogs and 1,000 poultry. In 1953, when the lease of Germersheim Island expires, the Hungarians hope to buy their own land

EMIL PUHL TASTES FREEDOM AGAIN: The former Vice-President of Hitler's Reichsbank seen checking a train-timing at Augsburg Station after his release from gaol on terminating his sentence

KARL WEHNER GOES HOME: Another war criminal who has been released from the rest of his sentence under an amnesty from the U.S. Occupation H.Q.

A FORMER S.S. GENERAL GREETS HIS SON ON EMERGING FROM PRISON: Oswald Pohl (left), who was first sentenced to death for war crimes, a sentence later reduced to five years, was escorted home by his son. Frau Pohl died while the General was serving his prison sentence. Remission for good conduct was given. Pohl was one of five high-ranking Nazis and one of sixty men (sentenced as war criminals) to be released from Lansberg Gaol on the same day. One of his jobs during the war was as a Concentration Camp Administrator in Germany

ERNST BOHLE WAS THE BEST-DRESSED OF THEM ALL: The former head of the Nazi Foreign Organisation seen as he left Lansberg Gaol

CÆSAR AND CLEOPATRA" MAKES A HIT ON THE NEW YORK STAGE: Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Lili Palmer in Bernard Shaw's play at the National Theatre. At a time when shows have been closing right and left, "Cæsar and Cleopatra" is proving an immense success. Lili Palmer is the wife of Rex Harrison

REHEARSING FOR THE 1950 PASSION PLAY AT OBERAMMERGAU: Annemarie Mayr, who will play the part of the Virgin Mary; Anton Presinger, who has been elected to the role of Christ; Alois Lang, who played the part of Christ in the last Passion Play and who this year will recite the prologue; and Johan Lang, the producer

A FAMILY ON THE TIGHT-ROPE

The Camera Reveals Aspects of Circus Technique Demonstrated by the Arturos

Acrobatics, with a comedy touch, on the high wi must seem a dangerous occupation for family. This year at Olympia, true to its traditi for novelty, Bertram Mills' Circus presents to such a family in the Arturos, who are appearing England for the first time. Indeed, they arrived this country from America only five days before th dress-rehearsal.

The dangers confronting the Arturos as the clown brilliantly on the tight-rope, 60 ft. from th ground, are obvious indeed, especially when is realised that they are working without th security of a safety net. As long as they do no balance over the audience, they are not boun by law to adopt safety measures, and neither d they when the choice is theirs.

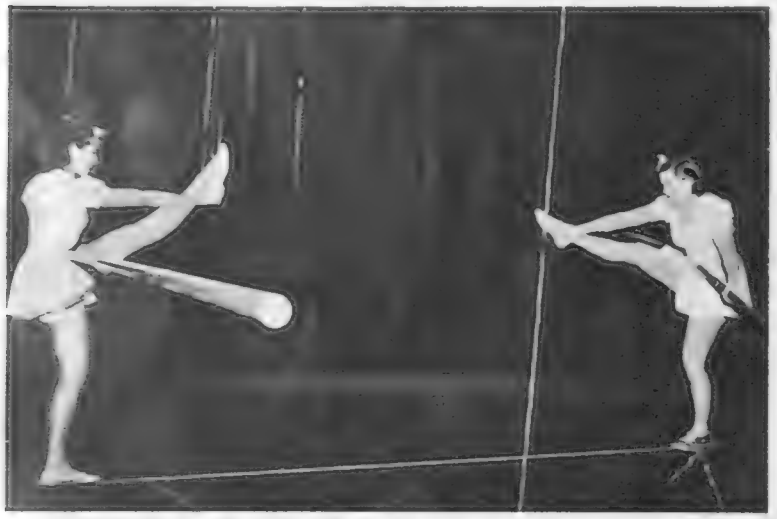
But surely the Arturos would feel more at ea with a comforting net beneath them? Would they Let us look at seventeen-year-old Rita, as sh ventures from the platform on to the wire, graspin the long balancing-pole firmly in both hand Is there any sign of fear or uneasiness on her fac or even the slightest trace of nervousness? Judgi by her composed expression, she might merely b crossing the road. Neither has she divorced fear fr her mind, for there never has been any. "If I fe nervous," she says, simply, "I would not go up."

What is this attractive, young Austrian girl secret? Iron will, or nerves of steel? No, simp confidence. Her first public appearance on the wi was at the age of two-and-a-half, when Artu carried her across on his shoulders. It is a fam affair. Arturo was born into it, like his father an his grandfather. "Training from childhood is th only way," he says. "The child is ten, eleven twelve before he ever realises that there is dange

The Great Arturo should know. He is not n named. Ever straining to attain a higher standa of perfection in his work, he has infused this spir into his family, and now he is not alone in h greatness. Small wonder, then, that the Artu have no use for safety nets. No one will deny th accidents do happen—but accidents happen people crossing the road.

It is affirmed by many that the Arturos are th greatest performers of their kind in the worl

"A SOFT SHOE SHUFFLE ON A VERY WOBBLY WIRE": One of the Great Arturos, the brilliant acrobatic family now appearing in Bertram Mills' Circus at Olympia, displaying his Blondin-like skill with a balancing-pole. The Arturos are making their first appearance in England as a team, and their spectacular fooling is something new in high-wire sensations, provided without a safety net



THE LADIES OF THE TROUPE HAVE THE SAME SUPERB CONFIDENCE AS THE MEN: *Left*—Here they are with the spotlight upon them advancing above the darkened arena with balancing-poles. *Right*—When the moment comes to pass, Mrs. Arturo demonstrates her skill by stepping across Rita, who slides down into a sitting position on the wire. Rita then uses two deftly-placed steel loops to raise herself

A PERFECT HEADSTAND ON THE HIGH WIRE: While the audience down below cranes upwards, Arturo Senior does his spectacular best. Rita and Arthur hold up their hands in acclaim. Arturo Senior has had one bad fall in his career, the result of over-confidence at the age of sixteen. He dropped 50 ft., broke his spine, and suffered other fractures

THE ARTUROS' PYRAMID, WITH RITA ON TOP: Th is a dangerous moment indeed, depending fo its satisfactory solution on mutual confidenc

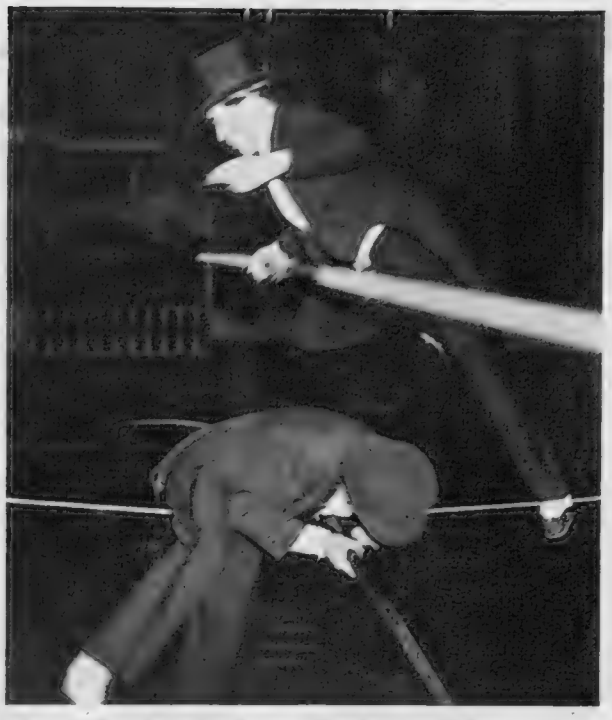
Those who have seen their act will agree that this statement merits consideration. Part of the secret of their success lies undoubtedly in the fact that they are a family as well as a team. In addition to being a good business associate, Hedy, Arturo's wife, must be a good mother, a good cook and a good wife. Arturo does the talking, and is responsible for the contracts; Hedy does the writing, and, according to Rita—"I do the spelling."

Rita attended a convent school in America, where, of course, she was not at liberty to practise her art. All her rehearsals took place at home. She has left school now, and trained for one year to attain proficiency in her part in the current act.

Eight-year-old Nicky, who is by no means camera-shy, is not appearing with his family at Olympia, and will not be able to do so until he is sixteen. In America, however, he has been performing with the others for the past four years.

Arturo Trostl has a scar on his face, and but for the accident responsible for it, he would never have met Hedy in Vienna a few years before the war. He was on tour in Austria, and holding the audiences spellbound while he rode a tandem across the wire, at the same time bearing the weight of a co-performer who, from the rear saddle, performed a handstand on Arturo's shoulders. One night this man fumbled, and fell, his balancing-pole striking Arturo in the face and making him fall, too. The pole left its mark and Arturo quitted the troupe, returning to Vienna, where he met Hedy, who was appearing as a contortionist in a different circus. A month later Arturo went on tour for two years, promising before he left that he would come back for Hedy. He did so, and they were married. That same month he left for America with the Ringling Circus, and Hedy followed soon after. Arturo had been appearing with his two sisters in Austria, but both of these had suffered accidents. It was not an unnatural consequence, then, that Hedy should join her husband's act. She trained for three years before their first appearance together. Accustomed to, and sickened by, the sight of Arturo hanging from the wire by his neck (a feat which he performed regularly for over a year), nervous and ill with a temperature of 101 deg., Hedy had sufficient cause to back out at the last moment. She did not, and now she is an integral part of the act.

The Arturos have performed in Spain, Italy, the Balkan States, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Canada, Cuba and America. Audiences, they say, react differently. They like our British audiences, finding them quiet, but very appreciative. A noisy audience does not bother them. Says Arturo: "On the wire there are no distractions. You could set off fireworks in the audience, and it would make no difference to us."



AN ELECTRIFYING MOMENT AT THE OLYMPIA CIRCUS: The two men are running towards each other across the high wire, and a collision seems inevitable. Arturo Senior falls flat on the rope at the critical moment; and Arturo Junior steps right over him. Subsequently Arturo Junior also falls (as depicted *below*), and he is seen in process of recovering his hat, which is attached to him by 20 ft. of string

SPELL-BINDING ROUTINE: Arturo Junior does a handstand on Arturo Senior's knees, while the elder man lies flat on the rope 60 ft. above the ground. Arturo Senior has his legs in wire stirrups, and there is an emergency wire beside him

RITA DEMONSTRATES THE BASIC STANCE FOR THE HIGH WIRE: The knees are slightly bent to absorb shock, and the feet are pointing outwards, so that whichever way she sways a part of the foot is positioned to allow of balance being regained

SCIENCE MARCHES ON

Some New Developments in the United States

780,000 SQ. FT. OF TILES: Workmen put the finishing touches on a completed section of the new Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel. New York City's 80,000,000-dollar, 9,117 ft.-long tunnel, the largest ever built in the United States, is due to be finished by the late spring. The clay tiles were chosen because they are clear, easy to maintain, and will diffuse light efficiently for the 16,000,000 motorists which the tunnel can accommodate annually. The tiling of the ceilings is now complete in both tubes of the tunnel

LOOKING DOWN THE FACE OF THE GRAND COULEE DAM IN WASHINGTON: An overhead view of the underwater chamber which serves as an advanced version of the old diving-bell. The underwater chamber at the 22,000,000-ton Grand Coulee dam has four tubes, each 15 ft. in diameter, which extend under the water to the caisson chamber. Two of the tubes are used for air, one for the lowering of cement and equipment, and the fourth contains an elevator in which the workmen are lowered to the river bottom. In the above picture, two barges are seen beside the underwater chamber loading materials for workmen engaged on repairs to the spillway bucket, 70 ft. below the water-level of the Columbia River

A DIVERSION TUNNEL AT PEPACTON RESERVOIR—LATEST SUPPLEMENT TO NEW YORK'S WATER SUPPLY: The 2,250-ft.-long tunnel has an exceptionally large mouth, 40 ft. high and 45 ft. wide. The Pepacton Reservoir at Downsville, New York, is expected to be completed in 1955. It will add 335,000,000 gallons daily to New York's water supply and, with the Rondout Reservoir and the Neversink Reservoir (five miles south-east of Rondout), it makes up the Delaware System which will provide New York with no less than 540,000,000 gallons of water daily. In the picture on the right, men are drilling into bed rock at a rate of 70 ft. in a twenty-four-hour day in the first section of the 25-mile-long tunnel linking Pepacton and Rondout Reservoirs

THE START OF THE 25-MILE-LONG TUNNEL IN THE SOUTHERN CATSKILL MOUNTAINS: This tunnel will carry water from Pepacton to Rondout Reservoir and will eventually help to supplement New York City's water supply

A SPEED-LIMIT SIGN IN ARIZONA WHICH CHANGES WITH NIGHT AND DAY: The latest development in speed-limit signs is seen in the above pictures. By day, the figure 60, and by night 50, appears below the words "Speed Limit." The change is effected by using "Scotchlite," a new reflection material which is practically invisible by daylight but which picks up motor headlights at night 150 times more brilliantly than ordinary white enamel paint

THE ALENÇON ROOM IN THE REORGANISED VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM: This room, with its painted leather panels and other richly-painted and gilded decorations, comes from La Tournerie, near Alençon, a shooting-box of Henri IV. It typifies the French fine arts in the early years of the seventeenth century, and exemplifies the new method of displaying the Primary Collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum. They are arranged not by material, but by period and style. When this reorganisation is complete the visitor will be able to go from gallery to gallery following the complete development of the arts in Europe

THE BRUSSELS TAPESTRIES, REPRESENTING THE PLANETS, BELOW WHICH ARE SET FINE EXAMPLES OF SIXTEENTH-CENTURY FURNITURE: The great French walnut chair in the centre background is the chair of justice of a French Seigneur, dating from about 1570. Wherever possible, tapestries and furniture are placed in juxtaposition in the rearranged galleries

KENSINGTON'S NEW PANORAMA OF THE FINE ARTS

The Replanned Lay-out of the Victoria and Albert Museum

Like several other worthy things in our national life, the Victoria and Albert Museum owed its inception to the Great Exhibition of 1851, that "Festival of Britain" which glorified the Victorian Age. It was with surplus funds from the Exhibition that twelve acres of land were bought in South Kensington and there was established what first came to be known as the Department of Practical Art. Acquisitions of whole collections and unique specimens of the fine arts soon flowed into the galleries, and the guiding principle from the outset was to show the finest manifestations of art applied to industry.

That guiding principle has never been lost sight of with the years, and now comes the news that the Museum's galleries, for the first time in their history are now being rearranged in two distinct, equally important groups, the idea being to present to the man in the street a panorama of art history.

The two distinct groups are represented by the Primary Collections, containing the finest works of art from all departments. (These will eventually take up thirty-five galleries on the ground and lower-level floors.) Then there are the study collections, which will fill the remaining 115 rooms.

The new lay-out has been conceived by Sir Leigh Ashton, and the pictures in this special four-page section of THE SPHERE give some idea of the attention which has been lavished upon the re-scheming. The Primary Collections now open to view represent Early Medieval Art, Northern Gothic Art, Spanish Gothic, Spanish Carpets, Italian Gothic, Near Eastern Art, English Watercolours, the Constable Collection, and Tudor and Early Stuart Art.

(Continued on following pages)

"APOLLO AND THE NINE MUSES": This carved and painted wood panel is in one of the European art rooms in the reorganised Victoria and Albert Museum. The panel is believed to have come originally from The Manor House, Toddington, Beds., but it is probably French work none the less, as also is the carved walnut chest beneath. The new lay-out at the Victoria and Albert Museum has been conceived by Sir Leigh Ashton, Director of the Museum. He believes it will give the man in the street a panorama of art history without the usual painful accompaniment of "museum feet"

A FIFTEENTH-CENTURY PULPIT FROM A CAIRO MOSQ P
The pulpit bears an inscription stating that it
dedicated by Sultan Kait Bey. It has some remar
inlaying of ivory on wood in geometric d

A DUTCH SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY CLOCK IN GILT AND EMBOS
SILVER: Students interested in the development of the c
or of any other single item of the fine arts will learn m
by touring the Victoria and Albert Museum's Primary Collect

KENSINGTON'S NEW PANORAMA OF THE FINE ARTS

(*Continued from previous page*)

A tour through the newly-decorated galleries shows that this reorganisation has involved something much more than the rearrangement of objects in cases. The whole lay-out has been modified, and the result is a unified display appealing alike to the layman, the student and the scholar.

Of special interest are the Continental Art Galleries. Nos. 1 to 4, already open to the public, which deal with the period from 1570 to 1700. Here the Departments of Textiles, of Woodwork, and of Architecture and Sculpture have combined forces, and there are also notable examples of ceramics, metalwork, and other arts.

In general the scheme adopted is to hang fine tapestries upon the walls, with picked pieces of furniture and so forth below them. The first section of Room I, for example, has a set of five tapestries illustrating sports and pastimes—archery, boar-hunting, and aquatic games among others. They bear the arms of the Venetian family of Contarini, but are Brussels work of the first half of the seventeenth century.

In the main section of the same room are shown two long, comparatively shallow Brussels tapestries representing the planets, below which are set the chief of the earlier pieces of furniture, notably the walnut chair of justice of a French Seigneur, dating from about 1570 and fashioned on the lines of a church stall. In this room, too, are to be seen some choice pieces of late sixteenth- and seventeenth-century china, pottery and glass, mostly Italian and northern European. In Room II the chief exhibits are a splendid Parisian tapestry of the mid-seventeenth century, displaying a Poussinesque landscape, with a great oak tree to the left, and to the right a distant view; and a Flemish ebony cabinet carved with mythological subjects.

From this point onwards the display is concerned with the fully developed Baroque style, and in Room III one of the first objects is a large and remarkable carved and painted wooden panel representing Apollo and the Muses. It came from Toddington Manor, but seems to be French work of about 1600.

Almost next in sequence is what is perhaps the most striking single thing in this group of galleries, an entire room, with painted leather panels and other richly painted and gilded decorations. It comes from La Tournerie, near Alençon, a shooting-box of Henri IV. The remainder of Room III is devoted to ecclesiastical art of the seventeenth century, and in the octagonal Room IV is shown a set of Flemish tapestries of about 1700, and five marble busts, of which the most remarkable is that of an Englishman, a Mr. Baker, by the Italian sculptor Bernini (1598-1680).

Sharing with the textiles the honours of the Islamic section are the ceramics, which include pottery from Persia, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Turkey and Southern Spain. Particularly beautiful are the ninth- and tenth-century Samarkand wares. Other groups that the visitor notices are the thirteenth- and fourteenth-century Syrian mosque lamps of amber glass, with gold, red and blue enamel patterns; the Persian pottery of the same period, when the Mongols were overrunning the country; and the strong designs and forceful colours of the Turkish pottery of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

PART OF THE ISLAMIC GALLERY WHICH CONTAINS WHAT IS PERHAPS THE FINEST DISPLAY OF MUHAMMADAN ART IN EXISTENCE: Of particular interest is the unrivalled series of carpets, silks, pottery, tiles and metalwork. The ninth- and tenth-century Samarkand wares, with their soft reds, and the Mesopotamian gold lustre of the tenth century are outstanding

THE GLORY OF ISLAMIC POTTERY: In the foreground are showcases containing treasures of Persian art in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Much of the Persian pottery relates to the time when the Mongols were overrunning Persia, but until the fifteenth-century ware is examined the Chinese influence is not greatly in evidence. *On right*—In Gallery I of the Continental Section is this seventeenth-century marble and wood head of an ox. It is North Italian work

KENSINGTON'S NEW PANORAMA OF THE FINE ARTS

CENTRE-PIECE IN GALLERY II OF CONTINENTAL ART IS A CELEBRATED SPINET DECORATED WITH SCENES FROM OVID'S METAMORPHOSES: The instrument, which stands in a cabinet in the centre of the gallery, dates from the year 1600, and is said to have belonged to the Winter Queen, Elizabeth of Bohemia. On the right is a large Flemish ebony cabinet of fine workmanship

BERNINI'S BUST OF AN ENGLISHMAN: It has been described as one of the most important single works in the Victoria and Albert Museum. At first sight this study of "Mr. Baker" would appear to be flamboyant, but the gentle melancholy of the face cannot fail to attract the observer's attention. It contrasts with the elaborate extravagance of the hair and lace collar. Lorenzo Bernini lived between 1598 and 1680

IN ROOM IV OF THE MUSEUM, AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF FLEMISH TAPESTRIES, ARE ARRANGED THE FINEST ITALIAN SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY MARBLE BUSTS IN THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM'S COLLECTION: Verrier's figure of "The Dying Achilles" (1683), seen on left, exemplifies Bernini's influence on figure sculpture which spread throughout Europe in the second half of the seventeenth century. In the same room is Bernini's bust of "Mr. Baker," which is reproduced at the top of this page on the right. Bernini, a Neapolitan, worked during the greater part of his life in Rome, where he planned a palace for Pope Urban VIII

RED-LETTER DAY
IN THE SOVIET CALENDAR
While Berlin and Vienna Celebrate Stalin's Birthday, Tokyo has a Russian Crisis

POLITICAL CRISIS IN TOKYO—WHILE DEMONSTRATORS APPEAL FOR THE RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR FROM SIBERIA THE RUSSIANS WALK OUT OF THE FOUR-POWER ALLIED COUNCIL RATHER THAN ANSWER GENERAL MacARTHUR'S CHARGES REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF THOSE PRISONERS WHO ARE SAID TO HAVE BEEN DRIVEN INTO SLAVE LABOUR: ***Left*****—A Shinto priest leading the demonstrators in prayer outside the Russian Embassy in Tokyo. A delegation representing the Repatriation Association of Japan sought admission to the Embassy while the prayer meeting continued outside.** ***Right*****—Lieut.-General Kumza Dervyanko, head of the Soviet delegation in Japan, walking out of the Allied Council rather than answer MacArthur's questions**

The question of the repatriation of Japanese prisoners of war is arousing the deepest feeling in Japan, and with each passing month it becomes increasingly apparent that the Russians have no intention of sending back to their homeland those who do not preach the Communist doctrine. On December 21 there was a crisis in the Four-Power Allied Council when General Dervyanko openly denounced what he called the United States' policy of aggressiveness and imperialism. General MacArthur retaliated with the direct charge that Russia is forcing thousands of Japanese prisoners into slave labour in Siberia. Dervyanko, rather than answer the charge, stalked from the meeting, followed by eight of his subordinates.

HIS UNIFORM IS A BLACK SHIRT AND A RED TIE: Karl-Heinz Scholz addressing his followers at a meeting held in his apartment in the French Sector of Berlin on the occasion of Stalin's birthday. Scholz is a Titoist and he has on many occasions denounced Stalin as Germany's public enemy. He declares that he is forming an anti-Moscow Communist Party, and he believes that Western Germany will prove a fruitful source of recruits

THE EAST SECTOR PARLIAMENT MEETS IN THE STATE OPERA, BERLIN, ON JOSEPH STALIN'S SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY: From the rostrum on the left of the stage Heinrich Rau, Minister in the East German Government, read the Government's birthday message to Stalin. A resolution was afterwards passed by the members to the effect that "The German nation wants no rearmament"

CELEBRATIONS IN VIENNA AND BERLIN ON THE OCCASION OF STALIN'S SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY: ***Left*****—The ceremony outside the house in the Schonbrunner Schlossgasse, where a commemorative plaque has been set up recording the fact that Stalin lived in the house in 1913 when in exile in Vienna.** ***Right*****—The torchlight parade and firework display in progress in the Soviet Sector of Berlin. The parade took an hour to pass the reviewing stand, and 400,000 people took part**

"THE LAST HORSEMEN" TALK OVER THE DAY'S WORK: Sixty-year-old Bert Barley (second from right), once London's biggest horse contractor, who still possesses the monopoly of those that are left, seen with his colleagues at the tavern in Knightsbridge Mews which is still a headquarters for horsemen, coachmen and hunting men in London. On the left is Frank Taylor, a veteran farrier, and on the right is Harry Hawkins, a coachman. Also in the picture is Bert Barley's assistant, Miss Dickson

THE LAST HORSEMEN OF LONDON

Forgather in a Knightsbridge Mews, Fighting what is Proving a very Tough Rearguard Action

As the petrol engine took over more and more of Lo streets, so the horse became an increasingly rare in London. Apart from the 5,000 slow-moving van ho mostly owned by British Railways and already banned many of London's busiest streets—the horse and rider, team of horses drawing a coach, is an unusual sight in L to-day.

Occasionally a stage coach is seen in London, or more a rider in the streets on the way to Rotten Row, and always the horse and coach can be traced back to a tiny behind the Albert Hall in Knightsbridge.

In this mews—one of the last in London still fulfilli original purpose as stables—is the riding school direct Bert Barley. For a century the name of Barley has mea strongest single influence in the supply of horses to L And to-day Bert Barley's stables, and the nearby mews p house, the Queen's Arms, act as a gathering-point for so the last real horsemen, coachmen and hunting men in L

Each day during the lunch-hour these London horse e gather to discuss not only horse-talk, but also strict b For although the horse has vanished from daily use in L streets, there is still a specialised need for horses and e to handle them.

Mainstay of horse activity is providing mount instructors for the riders who wish to use nearby Row. Among regular riders have been film stars Denn and Chips Rafferty, comedian Terry Thomas, and Au pianist Eileen Joyce. Other business is done with trad who need horses for local deliveries—a practice th increased since the end of the war.

But the people in London who really value Bert Berle are the film companies. For they know that at a day's he will provide them with up to 200 horses, as well as c and coachmen. Expert in handling this work is Master Horse Bill Parry-Jones, who knows exactly where to fi kind of period horse-drawn vehicle and men who can d

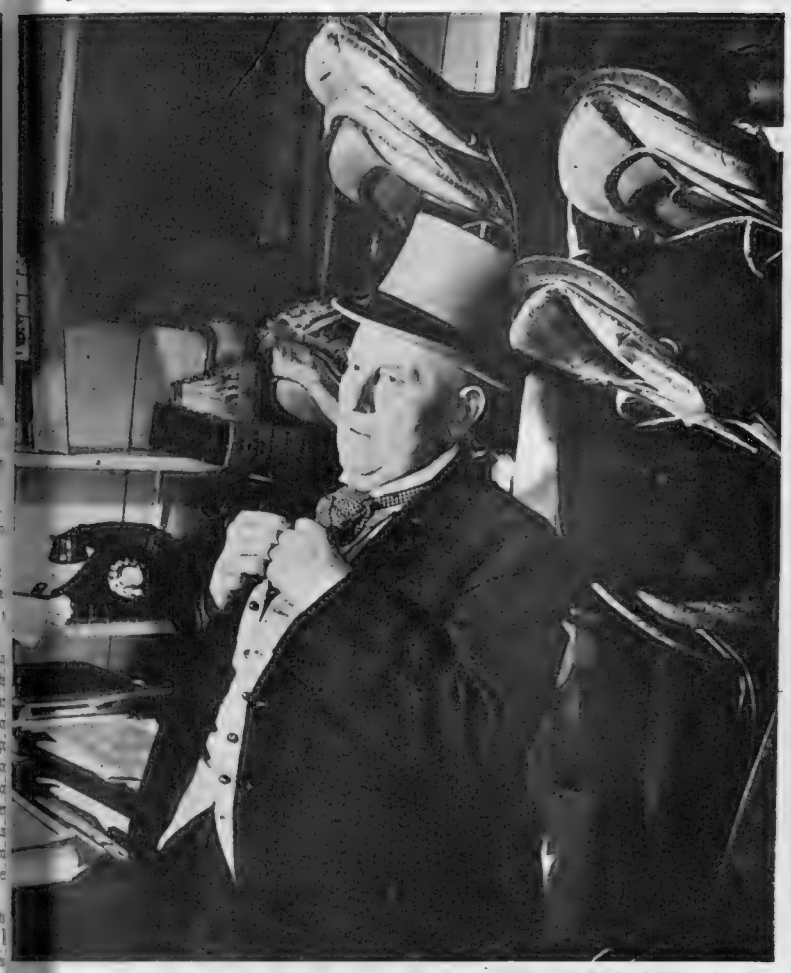
Out of this new demand for period coaches has s new service of providing horse-transport to order. business houses, as well as private individuals, have booking a stage coach, complete with coachman and for some special occasion.

As things are now in London it looks as though of the horsemen are fighting a very successful rearguard They have reached a point where the very rarity of th has produced a demand for it. But they are not rea cerned with business. Their real interest is to keep th and all the lore and tradition that goes with it alive in L

As long as they live they will somehow manage to a place in the London scene for the horse.

ANY MORNING IN THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE MEWS: Ostlers groom and saddle the hacks; the riding-school mistress gets ready to take her horses out; a coach is brought out for a polish; and all around is bustle and activity. At Bert Barley's stables the London of Dickensian days comes back to life, the petrol age seems pleasantly remote

"THE LAIRD OF KILLARNEY": The people mews know him well, and they alway him by this name. He places the horse all things and talks with considerable au



"YORKIE" WILSON ARRANGES HIS CRAVAT IN THE SADDLE-ROOM: It has been his privilege to drive London's Lord Mayors, and, if there is film work to be done, "Yorkie" can always be relied upon for a performance in the grand manner. *On right*—Harry Hawkins and his footman drive away their beautifully kept vehicle with the two bays

RANK TAYLOR, THE FARRIER, COMES TO THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE MEWS FROM FULHAM IN HIS TROTTING WAGON: Much of Mr. Taylor's work to-day consists of shoeing horses which are used in films, especially those that have to be galloped in an unusual manner, and therefore shod in a special way. Frank Taylor knows the history of his craft as well as any man living, and if the film studios call for special harness, he understands exactly what to provide

FROM HASTINGS TO HUDDERSFIELD

A Survey of the Home News in Pictures

THE HAREWOODS AT HUDDERSFIELD: Mr. David Crawshaw, President of Huddersfield Choral Society; the Earl of Scarbrough; Sir Malcolm Sargent; Lord Harewood; the Princess Royal; Miss Shirley Cartwright; Lady Harewood; and Alderman Cartwright, Mayor of Huddersfield. The occasion was the Huddersfield Choral Society's recital of Handel's "Messiah" at Huddersfield Town Hall, conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent

A HIGH POSITION IN WHITEHALL! Swinging his sledge with gusto, a worker prepares to demolish the last remaining chimney stack on Montague House, now being demolished under the Whitehall development sch

THE "WILLIAM SCORESBY" PREPARES FOR A NEW ADVENTURE: The 324-ton research ship lying in Shadwell Basin, London Docks, on the eve of her departure on a new voyage of ocean research. Studying whales in the region of West Australia will be one of the tasks of the scientists in the final months of the commission

CHECKING OVER THE WHALE-MARKING GUNS WHICH WILL BE USED ON THE "WILLIAM SCORESBY'S" EXPEDITION: Mr. R. Clarke (left) and Mr. R. I. Currie in the laboratory of the "William Scoresby" during the preparations for the departure from London of the research vessel on her ten-months voyage. The ship, in continuation of the work undertaken by the former Discovery Committee before the war, will visit South African waters and then make observations across the Indian Ocean. The last months of the commission will be spent in studying whales in the West Australian region. Dr. T. J. Hart will be in charge of the work at sea until the ship reaches Cape Town. With him is Mr. R. Clarke, M.A. (who will take over on leaving the C

A LUXURY SHIP WITHOUT PASSENGERS: *Above*—A corner of the crew's recreation room aboard the S.S. "Persic," the new Shaw Savill twin-screw vessel which has just sailed from London on her maiden voyage to Australia. *On right*—Cattle being loaded aboard the "Persic" by crane. On the maiden voyage, in the ship's well-fitted cattle-stalls and pens, are twenty head of Jerseys, Herefords and other pedigree cattle, and twenty-one sheep to increase the pastoral wealth of Australia. Two expert cattlemen are looking after them during the voyage. Also on board are a stallion and nine fillies which, when their racing days are over, will go to stud. In addition, the *Persic* is carrying 13,000 tons of cargo in her holds. The crew of this luxury vessel have first-class accommodation

A ZOO CENSUS FOR THE NEW YEAR: The annual stocktaking at the Regent's Park Zoo provided some amusing incidents, and the penguins and flamingoes were well in the picture. Two penguin chicks were hatched last year, but only one survives in 1950. The other was smothered by the excess of maternal affection of the other penguins

THE MUMMERS OF ANDOVER—THE TRADITIONAL ST. GEORGE AND FATHER CHRISTMAS PLAY ONCE AGAIN TAKES PLACE AT HOLIDAY-TIME IN THE LITTLE HAMPSHIRE TOWN. *Left*—St. George answers a challenge with a wave of the sword. *Right*—Father Christmas pleads for the lives of the wounded

For at least 300 years the men of New Street, in this Hampshire town, have gone mumming at Christmas and the New Year, performing a traditional St. George and Father Christmas play which has remained unchanged through the ages. No scripts are used, for the words have been handed down from father to son, and the play still has an all-male cast, who dress in a paper strip costume, probably evolved from the wandering minstrel's dress of Tudor times. First port of call of the mummers is the Angel Inn, one of the oldest in the town. It was burnt down in 1435 but later rebuilt, and much of the building remains as it originally was. In the courtyard of the inn the mummers perform their old play, each character introducing himself. Various characters challenge St. George to a fight, some are killed and some wounded, and the doctor steps forward after pleas for the wounded by Father Christmas. He administers a miraculous cure.

BRITISH BOATS FOR AMERICAN SHOWS IN NEW YORK AND MIAMI: Two 28-ft. boats being conveyed by road to Victoria Docks, London, where they were embarked in the "American Harvester" en route to New York. They are to be displayed in the Motor Boat Show in Grand Central Palace, New York, and later at Miami. The shows are organised by the National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers. The boats have been built by the Marine Company Limited

HASTINGS CORPORATION NOW OWNS WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR'S CASTLE: They have completed the purchase of the Castle and site for the nominal sum of £1,000. The purchase is from the trustees of the Earl of Chichester's estate. The Castle had been in the possession of the Earls of Chichester for four centuries. The ruins command a fine view of the sea, extending westward to Beachy Head. Until the sale the Corporation had been paying a nominal rent for the property

COVENT GARDEN IN ALDERMAN FITZWARREN'S DAY: The opening scene of this year's "Dick Whittington" pantomime at the Princes Theatre. In the centre is Hy Hazell, who plays the name-part in the old style of the principal boy. The old story is told in twelve scenes, and Bertram Montague's production is well served by Nat Jackley as Idle Jack; Barry Lupino as the Dame, and Jack Brennan's realistic "cat." The pantomime is colourfully dressed, and Hy Hazell can sing and act as well as portray a handsome and shapely Dick Whittington. "Specialities" are provided by the Ali Ben Said Moroccans (an acrobatic troupe); by Eugene's Flying Fairies, by Reading and Grantly; King Rat is played by Robert Crane, and Fairy Happiness by Jane Laoust

ROUND THE CHRISTMAS SHOWS

Dick Whittington; Little Miss Muffet; Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs; and *Peter Pan*

"SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS" AT THE VICTORIA PALACE: Joan Davies, as Snow White, with the real dwarfs who play the fairy-tale ones in the stage version of Walt Disney's film version of the Grimm fairy story. Eric Palmer is the Prince, and Joy Robins plays the part of the sinister and jealous Queen

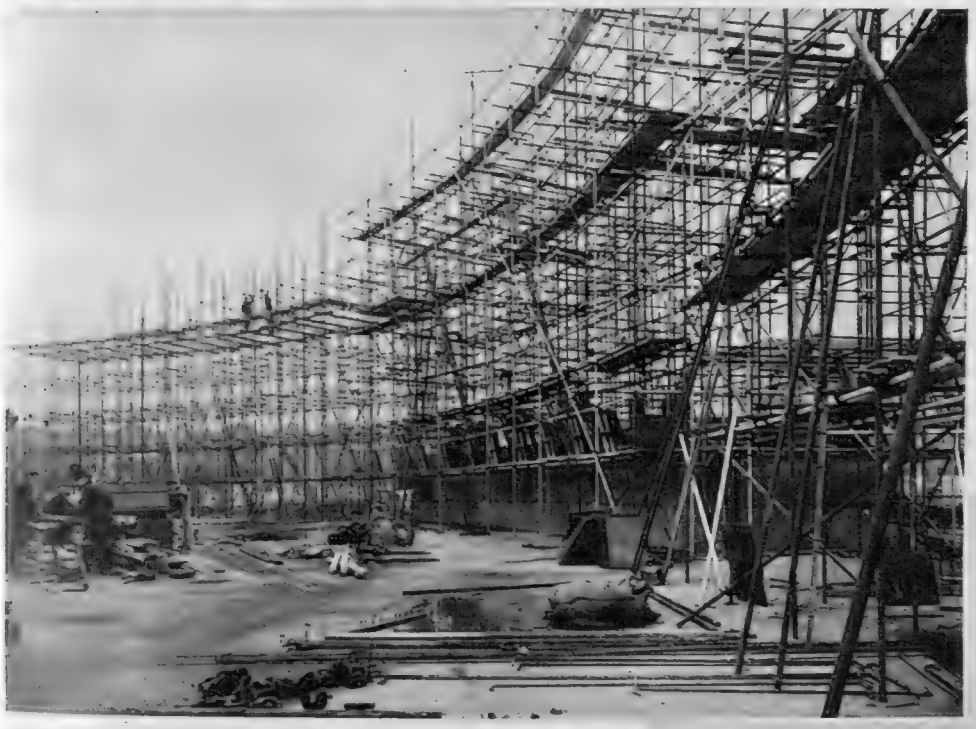
"LITTLE MISS MUFFET" AT THE CASINO THEATRE: Richard Murdoch takes the centre of the stage. He plays the part of a queen, who turns out to be the pantomime's Dame. On his right is Pat Kirkwood, the Prince who slays the spider and wins Miss Muffet. Much of the applause is stolen by a performing dog

"PETER PAN" AT THE SCALA THEATRE: Film star Margaret Lockwood, as Peter Pan, has her shadow sewn on by Christine Forrest, as Wendy. John Justin plays Mr. Darling and Captain Hook, a piece of stage doubling which has become traditional since the late Sir Gerald Du Maurier first performed the two parts

BUILDING THE BIGGEST DOME IN THE WORLD: A general view of the construction work on the great aluminium Dome of Discovery, the central feature of the upstream sequence of the Festival of Britain. The great dome, 93 ft. high and 365 ft. in diameter, will be made of aluminium—a material as typical of the age as was the sheet glass and cast iron of a hundred years ago. Inside the dome, the story of British supremacy in discovery and air exploration will be told. Science takes its place with territorial discovery, and Newton, Darwin, Faraday, Thomson and Rutherford rank with Cook and Livingstone. Sections will display the latest knowledge of the structure and nature of matter, culminating in a display of nuclear energy; land, sea and polar exploration; Inner Space, Outer Space; and the living world

DOME OF DISCOVERY

The Main Features of the Upstream Sequence of the Festival of Britain



45-FT.-HIGH BUTTRESSES WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE GREAT DOME: The saucer-shaped aluminium Dome of Discovery will be the most striking building in the exhibition

35-FT.-HIGH CONCRETE FINS WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE VIEWING GALLERY: The Viewing Gallery will run right round the perimeter and within the dome and, from it, visitors will be able to see the other galleries of varying heights in which the various displays are shown. The 45-ft.-high steel struts (*above, left*) will be sheathed externally with aluminium. One of the problems to be faced in the unusual construction of the Dome of Discovery (which has been designed by Ralph Tubbs) was the danger of lightning. This has been solved by burying a copper ribbon in the foundations and round the building, connecting with lightning conductors

New Lamps and Old

CHOOSE YOUR CENTURY

A Discourse on the Best of Times By JOHN GORE

BEST TIMES TO LIVE IN.—There is a proverb which asserts that a live dog is better than a dead lion—in short, that life is a boon at all times. The proverb may be true on the short view.

The lions of past eras in England were assuredly the landed proprietors before the industrial and economic earthquakes. To-day, such proprietors are certainly not so favoured. They might call their lives dogs' lives. We will here and now consider which era in the social history of England was most pleasant and favourable for landed proprietors to live in.

Willoughby de Broke, nineteenth of his line, in his charming memoirs attempted to solve this academic puzzle, so far as affected the nineteenth century only. I think he rightly rejected other centuries. The best time for owners of great country estates certainly lay somewhere in the nineteenth. He therefore chose three generations of time in the last century, and considered the comparative advantages of the tenants-in-tail of Compton Verney, born respectively in 1810, 1840 and 1870.

After full consideration he plumped for the grandfather born in 1810. This proprietor would have completed his seventy years just as the agricultural depression set in, and would have lived his active life, untouched by the more formidable symptoms of industrialism and the manifestations of that new thing called "democracy."

The father, born in 1840, no doubt at all, had a very good time indeed until the '80's, when a series of wet seasons and the coming of cheaper transport played havoc with his rents and obliged him to borrow or live on capital, or even shut up shop.

With the new century, farming raised its head again with new methods, especially in stock-breeding, and farms were a "safer investment" for the landowner. But it was *breve gaudium*. Lloyd George was soon enough on the warpath, and by 1910 the Gadarene rush of taxation began slowly but surely to gather way. And then the wars followed on. The son, born 1870, as he exercised his mind over this academic investigation in the '20's, was quite certain that his era had no claim to consideration. His had been a dog's life indeed in comparison with his two predecessors.

It remains to consider how the son's son would have viewed his father's "dog's life" in comparison with his own, if he had added one more generation to the comparison. The fourth tenant-in-tail, born 1900, might have found something to envy in the dog's life of his father.

The Nineteenth Lord Willoughby.—And indeed Willoughby de Broke of the third generation was able to make our mouths water and to induce in the minds of surviving landowners a nostalgia or envy almost too great to be endured.

He succeeded to the title and estates at the very end of 1902, and he quite frankly admitted, and quite admirably illustrated, the (to us) golden times that opened out for such as him throughout the reign of Edward VII. His father's last instruction to him was not to allow those new-fangled motor-cars to interfere with hunting in the Warwickshire country, and before the reign ended he had proved himself an ideal M.F.H. and provided the high-water mark of sport in his own country, aided and abetted by the best type of hunt servants and keepers of the old school; superbly mounted and everywhere looked up to, he ranged in sport over the fairest county of England, still quite unspoilt by modern horrors and easily recognisable with the early nineteenth-century landscapes. He had time and money to enjoy many other sports in distant lands, from big-game shooting in India to stalking in the Highlands, and although he had an industrious nature and was very keen on politics, he was able to pass the first four or five years of King Edward's (and his own) reign as "comfortably" and splendidly as his father before him. It was the shock of the 1906 election and the collapse of Conservatism which drew him back into politics. This re-entry probably shortened his life, leading him, stage by bitter stage, to the Parliament Bill controversy of 1910-11. He did what he did with his eyes open. But there is no doubt that he could have remained in Warwickshire throughout the reign, outside the bitter controversy, and could have enjoyed the life of landowner, M.F.H. and countryman with little less in the way of advantages than his father's before him.

For him the little clouds on the horizon, which were to threaten and destroy the country life so dear to him, were only a little darker and more pronounced than they appeared to his farsighted father, and that held good until 1914. It is the suddenness and the completeness of the collapse of the old system which is so painfully clear to us who survive.

The motor-car would gradually have brought ribbon development, advancing democracy would have brought in its train the domestic servant crisis and a dozen other little nuisances, from anti-blood sport leagues to barbed wire, and Lloyd George would have continued to step-up taxation; but only gradually would the lovely scene have faded. It was the World War with its post-war revolution and austerity which tore the graceful canvas out of its frame and threw it on the scrap-heap—in the twinkling of an eye. Had two world wars been averted, it is probably reasonable to suppose that still to-day some bright vestiges of the patriarchal system, so dear to and so successfully directed by Willoughby's father and grandfather, would have survived to this day, and countrymen would have had time to digest, and reorganise for, the clear indications of radical changes. Peaceful evolution—the glory of our nation—might have taken the place of sudden and violent revolution in this most typical of all British institutions—and with advantages to all concerned in cultivating the fruits and joys and benefits to be derived from country life.

Too Swift a Revolution.—When the nineteenth Lord Willoughby succeeded to Compton Verney, in 1902, England was still a nation which adhered to a system of social orders, graded into classes, and every class from bottom to top fought for the rights of its own order and took pride in it.

Had he lived out his life to its normal span, he would have lived into an England of a classless society, whose philosophy had outlawed the theory that a man's duty was to support his family and to raise himself by his exertions, and to show respect to those who were raised by their own exertions or by fortune to greater authority. That philosophy was rejected so suddenly that chaos fell on social life, and the muddle is still very apparent and disconcerting, in village and country life especially, and in no aspect more forcibly than in the decline of our traditional good manners and respect for law and order.

In a classless society, the Squire and the local gentry have now no admittedly superior status, but few village institutions can exist without their direction and conciliatory powers, their drive and imagination. And a slower evolution would have enabled both degrees to adjust themselves to the change, with enormous benefits to country life and industry, so vital to the nation's life to-day.

The value of men of Willoughby de Broke's type is hardly less important in the country to-day than it was in the heyday of their power and privilege. Their lands and stately homes may have gone from them; their tradition of service and responsibility remains, and with it an invaluable experience of countrymen and lore. Those of them who still retain a home and a few acres in their ancient inheritance should be used to the full in this crisis of transition and muddle.

THE EAST ESSEX MEET AT FINCHINGFIELD—A MODEST GATHERING BESIDE THE WAR MEMORIAL IN A PICTURESQUE ESSEX VILLAGE: Hunting, of all the pursuits that have survived the age of privilege, regarding which Mr. Gore writes with such nostalgic feeling, still has a firm hold upon the affections of countrymen, as witness the lively scenes enacted at many a meet when the Blood Sports Bill was coming before Parliament. Save on Boxing Day, when attendance at the meet is something of a ritual, fields are small these days, and even the great packs in the shires now no longer boast fields of 300 or 400 as in the years between the wars

"CYPRIPEDIUM QUEEN ELIZABETH"—A BRITISH ORCHID POPULAR IN THE U.S.A. AND IN AUSTRALIA: The bloom is grown by London orchid growers and flown abroad in a fresh condition

PACKING BRITISH ORCHIDS FOR EXPORT IN A LONDON HOTHOUSE: Mr. Cyril and Mr. John Dixon pack the blooms which are sent by air-mail. Forty years' growing experience is behind this venture

AN OVERSEAS BUYER IN A LONDON HOTHOUSE: Mr. Cyril Dixon (right), of Messrs. Harry Dixon and Sons, displays orchids which are being grown in London for overseas markets

BRITISH ORCHIDS FOR OVERSEAS MARKETS

Grown in a London Hothouse and Despatched by Air-mail

In 1946 Mr. Clint McDade, the Tennessee orchid-grower, visited this country to buy the Armstrong and Brown collection of orchids at Tunbridge Wells. "British orchids," he declared, "are the best in the world," and he showed his belief in them by spending £17,500 on buying pedigree stock during his stay. To-day British orchids are still in demand and are, indeed, dollar-earners. They are sent abroad by air-mail to eagerly-awaited buyers

ANTIQUE FURNITURE IN MINIATURE—A SELECTION OF AN AMERICAN DEALER'S HANDICRAFT: Mr. Eric Pearson at work on one of his detailed models at Spring Valley, New York. Visitors to his shop are able to acquire a complete set of miniature antique furniture. Mr. Pearson buys antique furniture for the woods he uses in making authentic copies on a very small scale of masterpieces created by Hepplewhite, Sheraton and Chippendale. He uses real leather and embroidered fabrics for upholstering. Collectors, decorators and museums buy his works of art and some of the pieces are sold for as much as a good piece of jewellery

DURHA
A CITY WIT
A PRESSIN
PROBLEM
The Picturesque
is Sadly Overcrow

The glory of Durham is its
dral, standing near the
the rocky peninsula above th
Wear. It is this peninsula wh
been causing much heart-searc
Durham in the post-war ye
Durham's University, which
trally placed in the Castle an
need of expansion. The
staff of 300 and the 3,000
find it hard to fit into this
neck of land. If new U
buildings are set up the U
authorities would like to se
placed upon the peninsula.
Green is a possible position
buildings, but it is doubtf
defenders of Georgian arc
would remain silent if some
existing buildings on Palace
were demolished for a mod
versity building scheme.
Durham Council seemed
the erection of new buildi
the limits of the peninsula,
then this view has gained
in many quarters. Wit
of Durham, too, ther
terrible congestion, and
neck of Silver Street,
nearly every motorist i
England, exemplifies the
conditions of the old quart

To-day the life o
volves round the Ca
University and the colle
three the University is a
tive newcomer, having
in 1833.

Coal was discovered a
in 1183, and in 1850
rush began. As a resu
Cathedral city became
pitman's town. It
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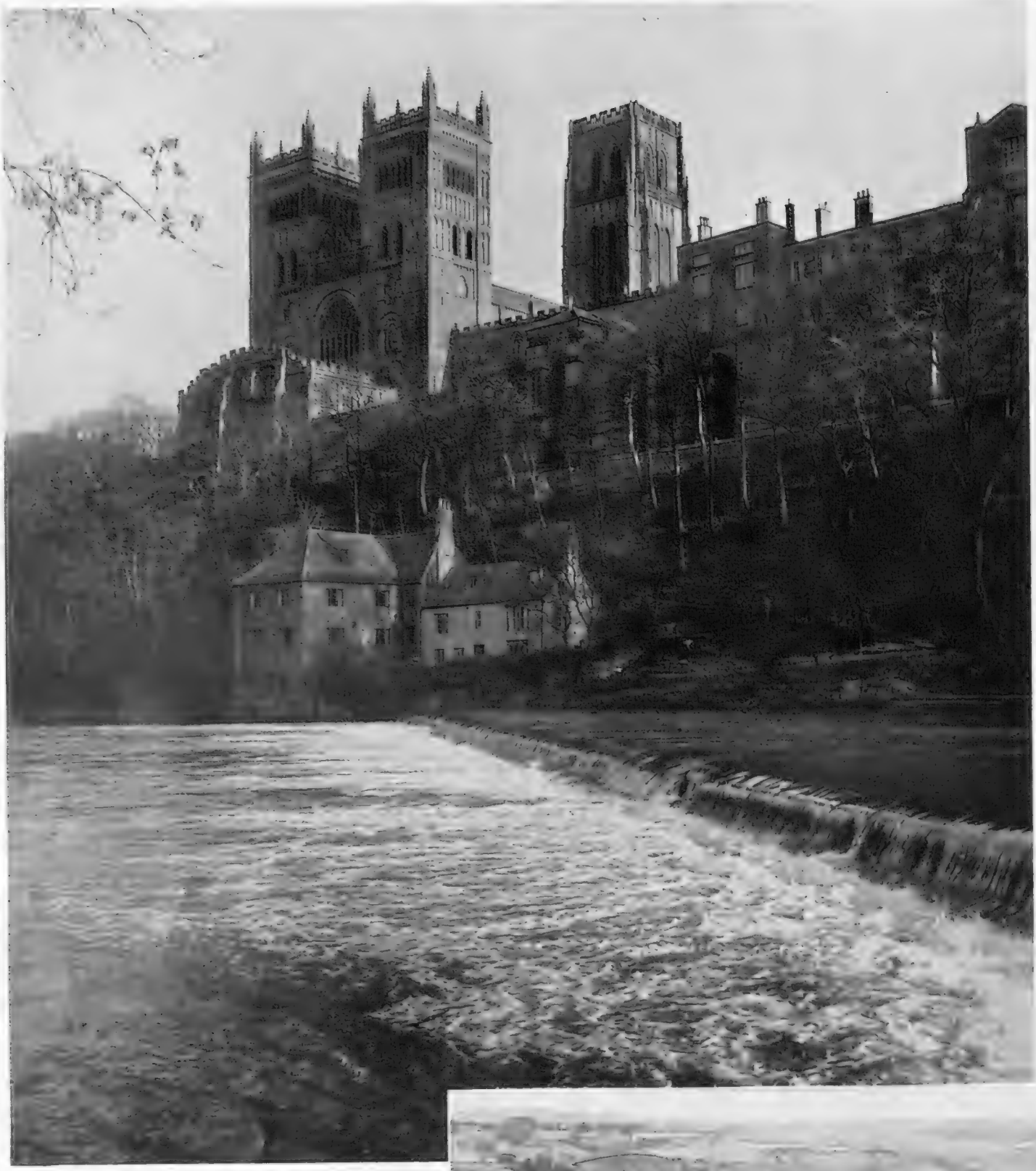
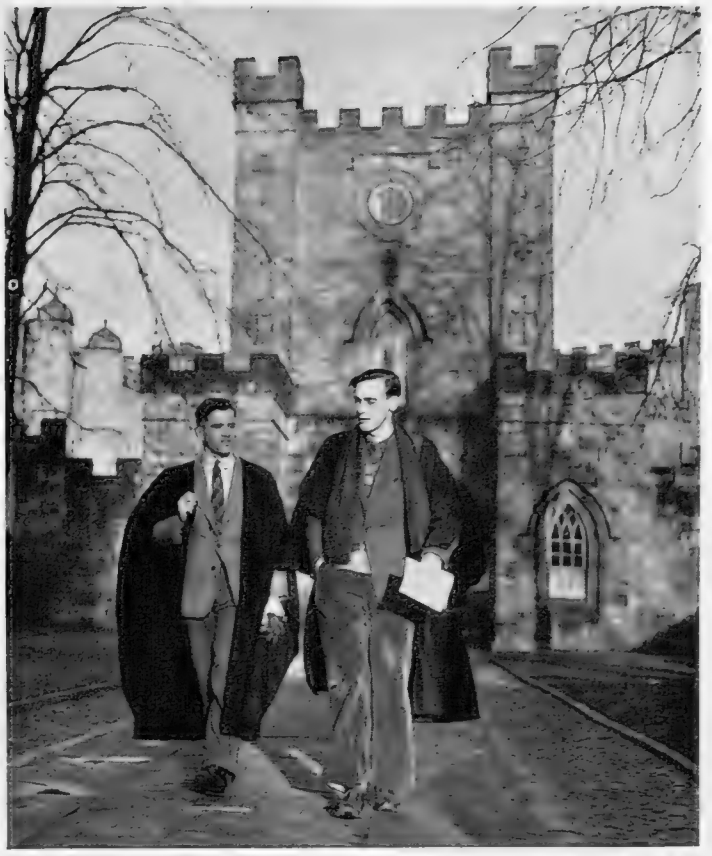


THE STATELY TOWERS OF DURHAM CATHEDRAL RISE ABOVE THE RIVER WEAR: The Cathedral, the Castle, and the area accommodating many of the University buildings, stand on a rocky peninsula. Because of this situation expansion of the University is a difficult matter and one that Durham people have been keenly debating for several years past

EVIDENCE OF THE CONGESTION WITHIN THE HEART OF MODERN DURHAM: *Left*—This is the bottleneck of Silver Street, the main north-south highway through which is wide enough for only one vehicle at a time. *Right*—An aerial view of the University and Cathedral area on the rocky peninsula above the River To erect more University buildings on the peninsula would involve demolitions and possibly some fine Georgian architecture might have to be sacrificed. plenty of land suitable for development beyond the river, but if this is used, it is argued correctly enough, the University would lose its homogeneou



DURHAM AS A CENTRE OF UNIVERSITY LIFE: Women undergraduates gathered outside the University Library on Palace Green before the start of a morning's work. *Above, on right*—Hurrying from the castle to catch the 10 a.m. bell are these two undergraduates, both of them gowned and one of them wearing the traditional college scarf. Durham University has eight colleges and two halls of residence. At the moment the accommodation for 3,000 students is seriously limited

THE MAN-MADE HILLS THAT DOMINATE THE LANDSCAPE AND RENDER BLEAK AND UNINVITING MUCH OF THE COUNTRYSIDE IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF DURHAM: *Above, and inset above*—These are two views of the great slag heap at Brancepeth. Its summit is 620 ft. above sea-level, and it is the unsavoury contribution of the last 100 years to the Durham scene. In a way it is as characteristic of the place as is the great Cathedral. Strangely enough, the Church and the collieries have a close affinity in this far-northern county, for since early times the collier has been the tenant of the Bishop. When Wolsey was Bishop of Durham he owned mines

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

A TIME TO LOOK BACK

With the Turn of the Year Came a Host of Books in Retrospective Mood

IT is probably natural that, with the turn of the year, should come a tide of books reviewing not only the past year, but the past decades in European history and in the events in the Near East. More than half of them are focused on the recent war, and that is natural, too; and one or two go back as far as the nineteenth century. Generally speaking, their tone is thoughtful, as befits their subjects, and only one could be dubbed "historical-romantical."

First on the list for a number of reasons, the principal one being its warm humanity, comes Mr. Marsland Gander's autobiography, AFTER THESE MANY QUESTS (Macdonald. 15s.), which covers the period 1902 to 1946 in the author's experiences. Mr. Gander is primarily a newspaper man, born in Bow, and therefore eligible as a true Cockney, who learned his exacting profession the hard way, beginning with inquests at West Ham and graduating to the distinction of war correspondent to an important London daily newspaper. "Though I cannot, with any confidence, tell young people to-day what is the *best* way to become a journalist," he writes, "I can at least tell them how *I* became one."

A period in Bombay, working on the *Times of India*, is included in these memoirs, as is the account of his dawning interest in television, but for most of us it is the account of his war experiences in Leros, in the Italian campaign from Cassino north, in the landings in what was meticulously called Southern France, in the liberation of Rome, Athens and Amsterdam, and in the Airborne drop across the Rhine, in which he took part with many qualms, but also—and typically—with a typewriter. An honest, straightforward book with less use of the first person singular than one has come to expect in such affairs.

MILITARY ATTACHÉ IN MOSCOW (Hollis and Carter. 10s. 6d.) is Major-General Richard Hilton's story of his own experiences during the two years when he was first at Marshal Sokolovsky's headquarters at Potsdam, and subsequently British military attaché in Moscow after the war. It is serious but very readable, and the writer's sense of detachment is well illustrated by the choice of design on the wrapper: a reproduction of a cartoon from the Russian paper *Krokodil*, at the time when he was arrested as a spy patchily disguised, with field-glasses and skis strapped on backwards. General Hilton has covered a pretty wide field in what is quite a short book, and includes tips on vodka-drinking with his more profound analyses of Russian propaganda and Russian character. There are the now inevitable references to the Dean of Canterbury and the Dynamo Football Team, and there is, too, a quotation from a Kipling story that I had forgotten, to the effect that, "The Russian is a charming person till he tucks in his shirt." Altogether a rewarding essay in international understanding.

Mr. Vernon Bartlett has recently returned from an extensive tour of Eastern Europe, and his findings and opinions are expressed in his new book, EAST OF THE IRON CURTAIN (Latimer House. 8s. 6d.). Mr. Bartlett warns the reader of "a certain amount of boring repetition," but explains that, although in each of the countries he visited he found very different problems and differing degrees of passive resistance, he also found precisely similar methods of silencing opposition, of distorting the aims and actions of the Western democracies, and of assuring complete subservience to the policy of the Soviet Union.

Mr. F. A. Voigt, a foreign correspondent of distinction, has summed up the spirit and fact of unrest in the Greece of the last five years in his new book, THE GREEK SEDITION (Hollis and Carter. 10s. 6d.). Since its completion he has again visited the country and, in a preface which in no sense modifies what he had written, adds a brief account of further events of great consequence (mainly Communist raids), that he feels the reader should add to his knowledge of a country "from which the world has much to learn."

Miss Anne Dacie volunteered during the war to go abroad as a relief worker and help the Slavs, and finally, in October 1945, she flew in to Belgrade, and into the country that for the next two years she was to live and travel in. INSTEAD OF THE BRIER (Harvill Press. 10s. 6d.) is described as a volume "concerning Yugo-slavs," and that, most emphatically, it is, though no Olympian authority is claimed for it, beyond the facts that Miss Dacie journeyed with considerable freedom throughout the territory, before she was ordered to leave by the Minister of the Interior; that she was an accredited correspondent to both a London daily and a weekly; that she worked for the European office of U.N.R.R.A., and for the Information Services in Trieste, where she wrote on the reconstruction plans of the Allied Military Government.

What is at least equally important to the reader as these no doubt vital statistics, is that Miss Dacie can write with charm and humour, and that she is able to convey something of the character of a people who are independent, social and fiercely individualistic.

BENITO MUSSOLINI: Memoirs 1942-1943 (Weidenfeld and Nicholson. 18s.) is a copiously annotated volume, most of the original part of which appears to have been written in the early summer of 1944, and is here edited by Mr. Raymond Klibansky, a Professor of Canada's McGill University. The book is of considerable but uneven interest, and includes documents from a number of eye-witnesses to events during the last year of Mussolini's life.

Mr. Kermit Roosevelt's new book on the Middle East has the provocative and timely title of ARABS, OIL AND HISTORY (Gollancz. 15s.), and is the result of his studies as a historian, as a U.S. State Department representative, as a wartime intelligence officer, and as an observer who has something of his grandfather "Teddy" Roosevelt's enquiring spirit in him. His most recent visit in 1947 was made with his wife and was unofficial; simply to learn all they could about the Middle East during a six-months stay, and to gather some material for writing. The writer's conclusions are not particularly novel, one of them being a plea for Arab-Jewish co-operation, but they are freshly expressed and forcible

THE ARAB OF THE DESERT (Allen and Unwin. 63s.) is an impressive volume which one would like to have seen published in the more old-fashioned two-volume format, as it is at present an unwieldy book to grasp or consult, but for all that there is little doubt that it will become a valuable work of reference on the habits and characteristics of the Bedouins, or, as Colonel H. R. P. Dickson more correctly writes, "Badawin life in Kuwait and Sau'di Arabia." Its 600-odd pages give far more than the glimpse to which he deprecatingly refers, and the photographs and innumerable, careful drawings by Mrs. Dickson, as well as the separate maps and diagrams enclosed with the book, provide a magnificently documented guide to both the people and the country

The most complete break of subject matter and treatment is provided by the next book under review, which is the Marquess of Queensberry's study of OSCAR WILDE AND THE BLACK DOUGLAS (Hutchinson. 20s.). Here, in collaboration with Mr. Percy Colson, Lord Queensberry recapitulates the circumstances that led up to the notorious trial, and throws some fresh light on the actions and the characters of his kinsmen, Lord Alfred Douglas and Lord Alfred's father, the eighth marquess. The book is not free from typographical errors of a major sort, as when Wilde's faithful friend is described as Robert Boss (*sic*), but, in the main, it is of interest, particularly if read in conjunction with the recently published and complete text of Wilde's *De Profundis*.

UNREQUITED LOVE (Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 10s. 6d.) contains five short stories by Maxim Gorki, appearing here for the first time in an English edition, and translated from the Russian by the Baroness Moura Budberg. In his introduction, Mr. Alan Pryce-Jones writes of Gorki not as a politician, in spite of his acclaim as such in his own country towards the end of his life, but as a painter of the Russian people.

OLIVER WHITBY WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN: The Governors of the Oliver Whitby School, Chichester, shaking hands with the last pupils, after a special service in the Cathedral to mark the closing of the school, founded by Oliver Whitby in 1702. In the picture are the Governors, Admiral R. S. Phipps-Hornby (acting chairman). Admiral Sir Henry Meade-Featherstonehaugh; Admiral Sir Reginald Skelton; Mr. R. I. Henty, and Mr. E. T. Symons (clerk). At the service, the Dean of Chichester told the boys: "The school was founded in one of the greatest periods of English history. What Oliver Whitby wanted was that you should be brought up in the faith and fear of God." Present-day economies have forced the closing down of the school, but the Dean said that the memory of the founder would be preserved

THOMAS ROWLANDSON

Bernard Falk Rights Some Misconceptions

Bernard Falk, that engaging biographer of Ada Isaacs Mencken, Turner and Rachel, has pursued his historical researches, this time into the life of the pictorial chronicler of the hard-hitting, hard-riding, hard-drinking Georgian age. In THOMAS ROWLANDSON: HIS LIFE AND ART (Hutchinson and Co. £3 3s.), Mr. Falk has achieved an admirable piece of research, but, like the good journalist he has always been, he does not allow himself to become bogged down in a welter of hard facts, his own agreeably racy style being admirably adapted to the portrayal of a character of such robust individuality as Rowlandson. Mr. Falk, too, rights more than one misconception about the artist, notably Austen Dobson's far from accurate memoir in the *Dictionary of National Biography* regarding Rowlandson's supposed marriage to Miss Stuart of Camberwell. He gives the lie also to the fortune of £7,000 which Rowlandson is said to have been left by a rich aunt, squandering it in an orgy of gambling and riotous living. That the artist did receive a comfortable inheritance is beyond doubt, and that he got rid of it with all speed is also well known. Now his latest and most expert biographer makes a bold attempt to unravel the facts. Rowlandson is shown in his younger days as a successful contributor to the Academy. That his work as a portrait painter attained considerable popularity was no mean feat when it is considered that such giants as Gainsborough, Reynolds, Romney and Hoppner were among his contemporaries. But the ebullient Rowlandson's gift of humour kept bobbing to the surface, and his lightly-wrought and felicitous little idylls of the hostel and the highway, his gift of humour and his boisterous animal spirits eventually prevailed, and he became the chronicler of the foibles of his time. The excitement of the famous Westminster elections of 1784 carried him into political satire, and the Corsican Ogre, then about to bestride Europe, brought the artist similar inspiration. In this finely produced volume, Mr. Falk has achieved a really important piece of artistic research, and the wonderful gallery of plates in colour and half-tone, and the bibliographical supplement, combine to make this a standard work which will no doubt rank for years to come.

On July 12, 1945, the world of art was shaken to its foundations when a not particularly successful Dutch artist by the name of H. A. van Meegeren announced that he was the artist responsible for works lately discovered and widely attributed to Vermeer and de Hoogh. To the dismay of the critics who had hailed the masterpiece "Christ at Emmaus" as a veritable example of the art of Vermeer, and of the public who had thronged to see the painting on public exhibition, van Meegeren made good his claim as one of the world's most successful fakers. He had fooled not only the gullible Hermann Goering, but the whole of the Western World. That was unforgivable, and needless to say the world fell upon van Meegeren. Dr. P. B. Coremans, Director of the Central Laboratory of the Belgian Museum, in VAN MEEGEREN'S FAKED VERMEERS AND DE HOOGHS (Cassell and Co. 25s.), tells us much about the technical aspects of this masterpiece of forgery, showing how the faker, with infinite cunning, employed the pigments of Vermeer's day, and how fluorescent, ultra-violet, infra-red and X-ray examination eventually proved what the world was only half willing to believe.

Another art controversy, and one that has not by any means died down, is brought to mind by Mr. Ton Koot, Secretary of the Rijksmuseum, in his excellent volume, REMBRANDT'S NIGHT WATCH: ITS HISTORY AND ADVENTURES (Cassell and Co. 9s.). The story of this canvas through the centuries makes enthralling reading, and it is good to know that such an expert as Mr. D. C. Roell, the General Director of the Rijksmuseum, regards the restoration as completely satisfactory, although there are many others in the world of art who still express the strongest doubts about the validity of the new colouring. Mr. Roell is of the opinion that this masterpiece has been given back its real colour harmonies and a feeling of depth which did not exist at all in its mellow, golden-yellow state when so much glorious colouring was hidden under a dark veil of varnish and dirt. From the same publishing house come two more important books for the art lover, Dr. A. Van Schendel's CAMERA STUDIES OF DUTCH MASTER PAINTINGS (Cassell. 30s.) and Lunsingh Scheurleer's CAMERA STUDIES OF EUROPEAN SCULPTURE AND CRAFTSMANSHIP (Cassell and Co. 30s.). The second volume records many of the treasures from the Austrian State Collections which Londoners had the pleasure of admiring at the Tate Gallery less than a year ago.

CHILDREN OF EUROPE (Victor Gollancz. 21s.) is a valuable factual-record, and a heart-breaking one at that, of the plight of children during the Second World War. The author, Dorothy Macardle, begins by describing the type of education imposed on the youth of Germany by the Hitler regime, because, she says, "it is less difficult to comprehend what the Nazis inflicted on the children of occupied Europe if we recall what was done in their school days to them." This is the blackest of records and gains added force from its austere factuality

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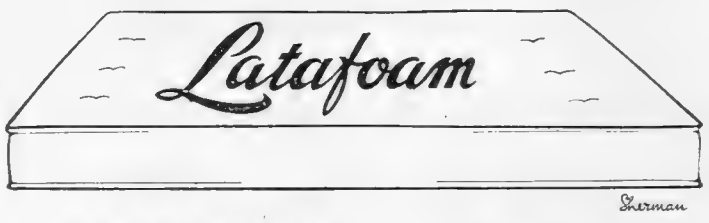

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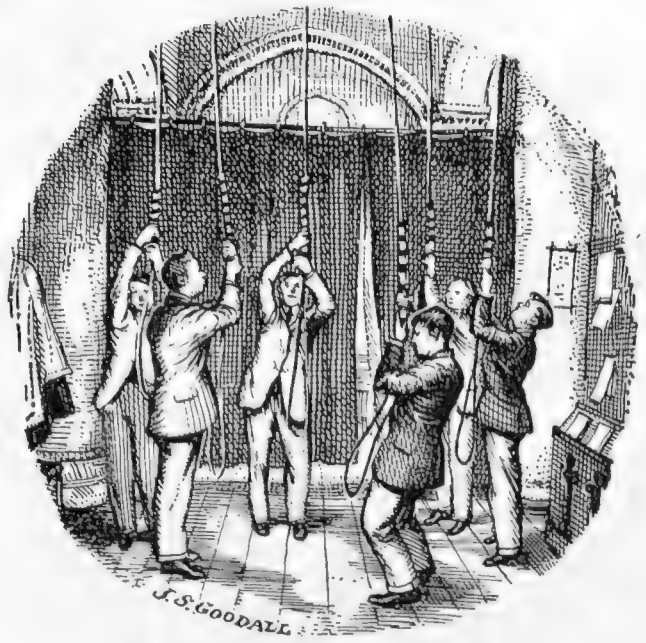

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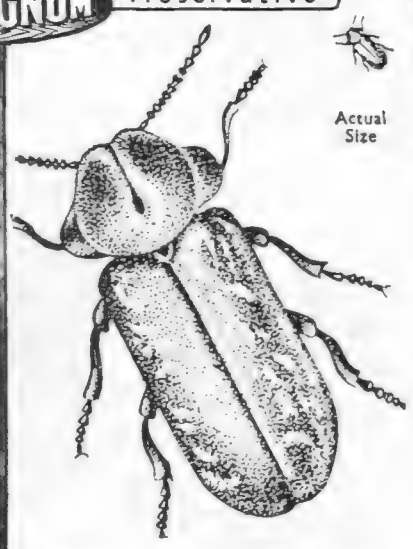

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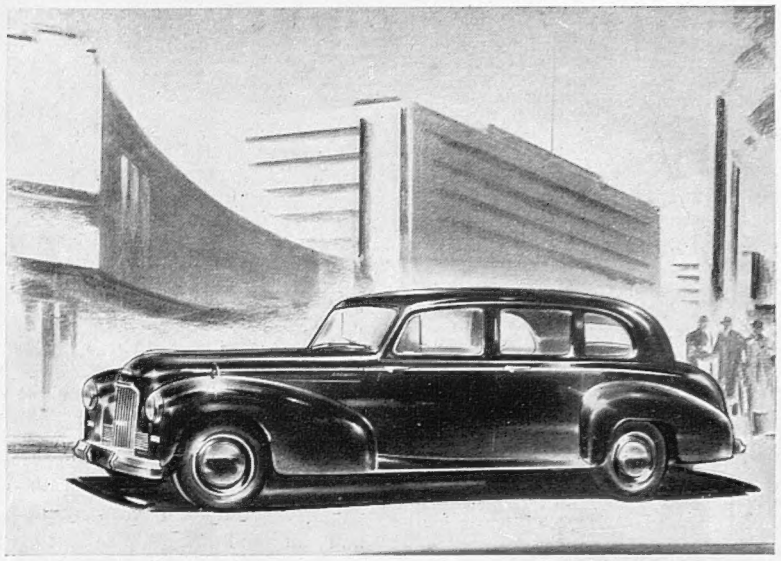

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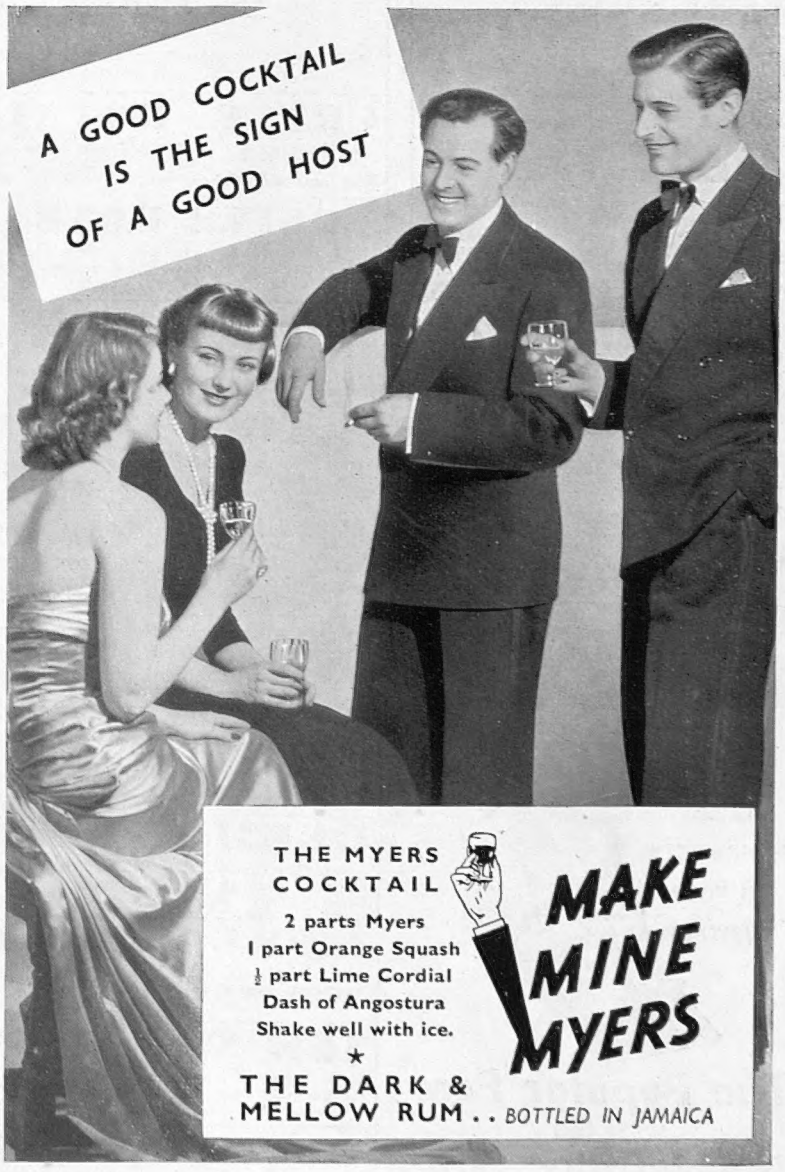

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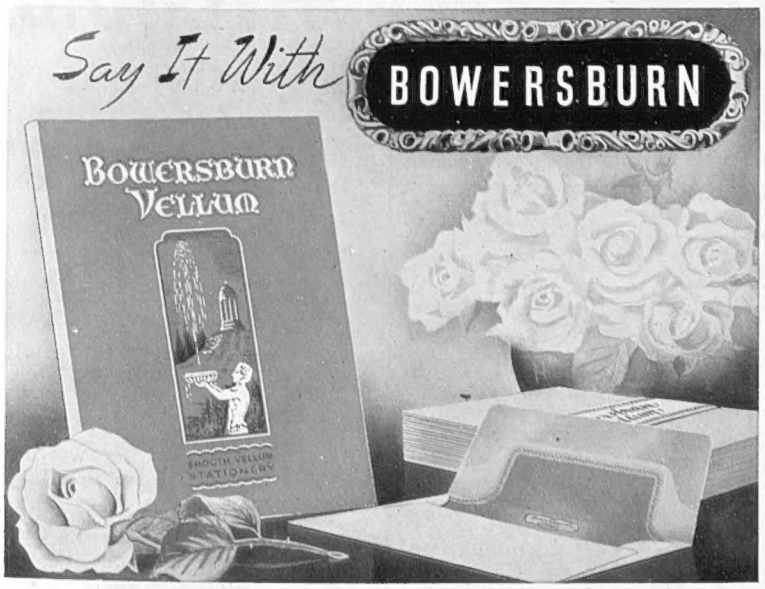

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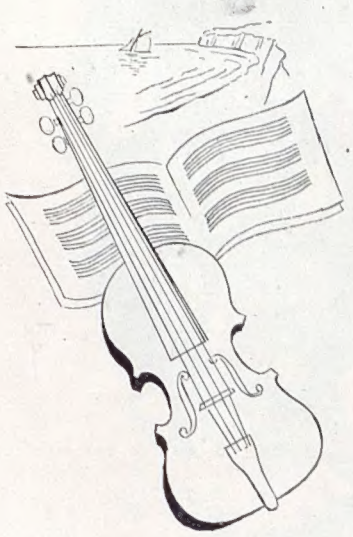

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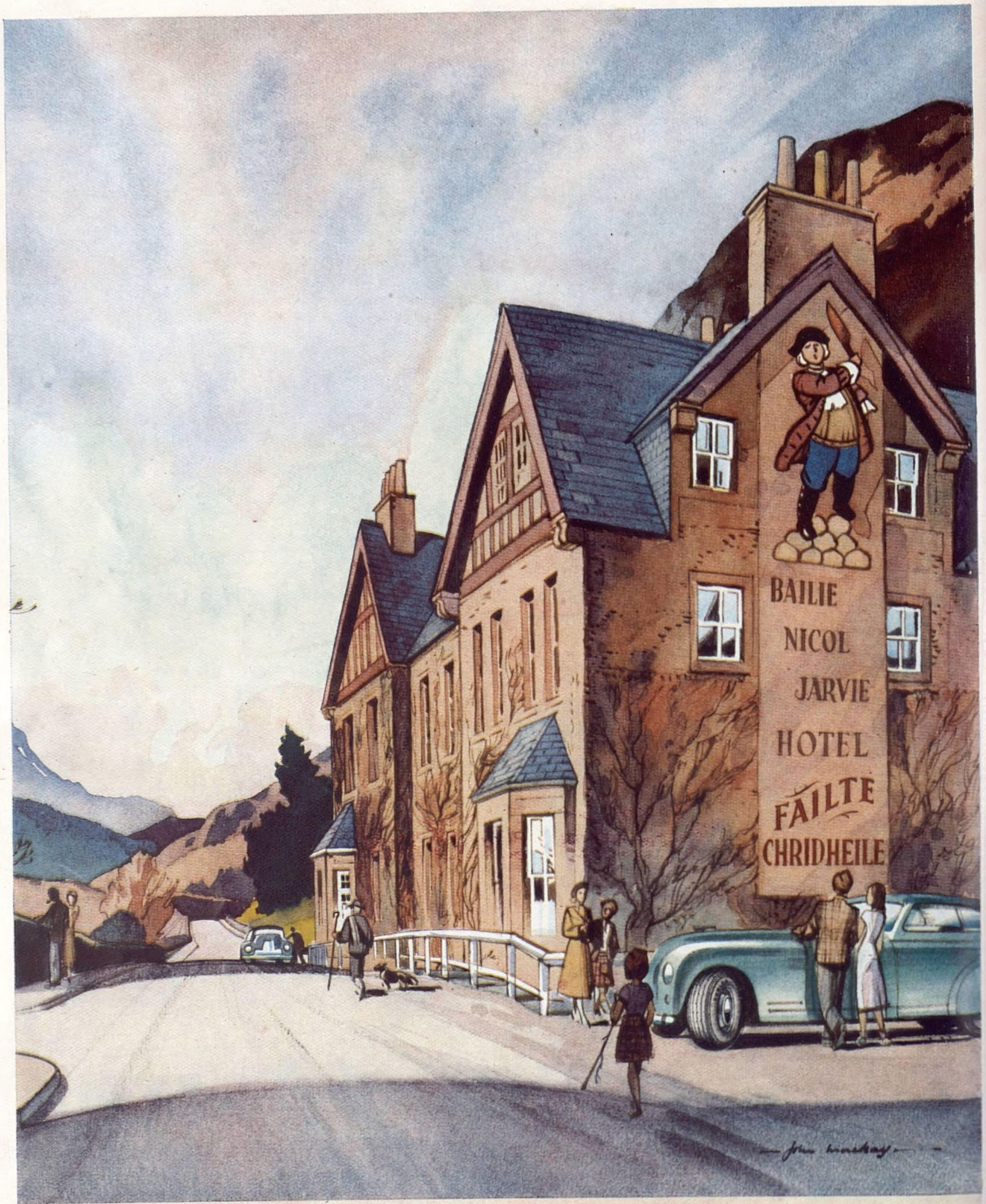
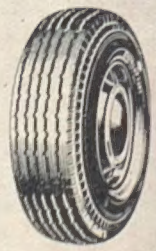


FAMOUS INNS AND THEIR SIGNS

The "Bailie Nicol Jarvie" ABERFOYLE · PERTHSHIRE

On a tree outside the "Bailie Nicol Jarvie" at Aberfoyle hangs an old iron coulter. It was with this improvised weapon, snatched red-hot from the fire, that Glasgow's Bailie Nicol Jarvie ignited the plaid of a belligerent Highlander who resented sharing the inn's hospitality with a Lowland Scot. The ensuing skirmish, vividly described in Scott's "Rob Roy", ended amicably in drinks all round at the Bailie's expense. The friendship thus cemented symbolises the inn's position as a link between the Highlands and Lowlands of Scotland. Symbolic of a later age is the Dunlop pneumatic tyre, which enables the modern traveller to journey with swiftness and comfort to such places of absorbing interest as the ancient and romantic inns of Britain.



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